

Arts & Culture

Studio Theatre tackles Shakespeare's *Cymbeline* • 24



News

Recapping the record-breaking dodgeball game • 5



Opinion

Occupy is a misguided mess • 16



February 8th, 2012 ■ Issue No. 21 ■ Volume 102

THE gateway

THE OFFICIAL STUDENT NEWSPAPER AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

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colophon

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New business dean brings passion for research

Joseph Doucet hopes to enhance the student experience and make graduates more attractive to the job market

April Hudson
STAFF REPORTER • @APRIL_HUDSON

With a number of groundbreaking achievements already under his belt, University of Alberta professor Joseph Doucet has another one to add to his list as the newly-appointed interim dean of business.

Doucet, who came to the University of Alberta from the Université Laval, has now been a member of the School of Business for almost 12 years as both a professor and researcher.

After plunging into the Alberta energy scene upon his arrival in 2000, he was awarded the title of Enbridge Professor of Energy Policy in the department of marketing, business economics, and law. His term as interim dean began in January and is set to run for two and a half years.

"I came here principally because of the interest and challenge in energy policy and teaching research in the business school, as well as the energy environment here in Alberta," Doucet said. "That's what attracted me ... and so far, it's been an absolutely fabulous match."

After arriving at the U of A, Doucet helped to cultivate an MBA specialization in natural resources, energy and the environment — something that was just on the cusp of blossoming when he arrived.

"I (also) created a research centre," said Doucet, who spearheaded the Centre for Applied Business Research in Energy and the Environment. "I've hired people to teach and do research in this area, so it's been very

exciting."

Considering his recent appointment as interim dean, Doucet said that one of the things he is planning to focus on is adding to and improving the student experience.

"We already have tremendous programs and a lot of great experience for our students," Doucet said.

"We have a whole lot of complimentary activities to our academic program — case competitions, study tours, or study abroad. I hope to do more of that — more of the things that compliment and benefit the traditional academic learning in the core competencies, whether that's accounting or finance or marketing."

“I came here principally because of the interest and challenge in energy policy and teaching research in the business school ...”

JOSEPH DOUCET
INTERIM DEAN OF BUSINESS

Doucet added that he wants to enhance the student experience to not only improve their time at the School of Business, but also to make them more attractive and productive when they go out into the job market.

"I think they're going to enjoy it," Doucet said in regards to his plans for business students. "I'm really excited about this job and this opportunity — it's exhilarating."

Doucet's passion for energy research has taken him to the top of energy associations and committees across Canada. He served as president of the Canadian affiliate of the International Association of Energy Economics, and also edits a number of energy-related journals such as the *Journal of Regulatory Economics* and *Energy Studies Review*.

"I've been very fortunate to have all these opportunities," Doucet said. "Now that I've come into the dean's role, I'm very excited about the possibilities that open up in terms of helping the school develop and move to the next level."

As an applied economist, Doucet works in areas of applied energy and regulatory policy for his research, looking at things that have an impact on resource or infrastructure development.

"I find (my research) very exciting, and I believe it's very important because of the significance of energy on all levels throughout the economy," Doucet said. "If you think of Alberta, you obviously think about the energy resources we have that can be developed."

Doucet added that an equally important thing Albertans should think about is technologies used to extract or consume energy, which leads to efficiency issues.

"It's important to understand how good government policy and the right policy tools have an impact on the development of technology and innovation," Doucet said. "While people might not be directly employed in the energy sector, they certainly feel the impact and benefit of the development of it."

streeters

COMPILED AND PHOTOGRAPHED BY Katelyn Hoffart + Matt Hirji



Almira Tanner GRAD STUDIES I
"I moved to Edmonton."



Amanda Cowan PHARMACY I
"I don't do anything."



Quentin Lau ARTS III
"Jumped off a roof, got a six pack thrown in my face and got a bloody nose."



Anthony Thomas SCIENCE I
"Drinking!"

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FILE PHOTO: DAN MCKECHNIE

U of A pressing government for three-year funding cycle

April Hudson

STAFF REPORTER • @APRIL_HUDSON

The University of Alberta is urging the provincial government to revert back to a three-year funding projection for post-secondary institutions in light of recent budget concerns.

Up until the last two years, the university was set on a three-year funding cycle, according to U of A President Indira Samarasekera. Now, along with university administration, Samarasekera is pressing for a return to that funding cycle, which could help alleviate concerns and minimize the effects of an overly-tight budget.

"Even a few years ago, our funding was always on a three-year cycle, and every year (the provincial government) would announce the next three years so we could plan (accordingly)," Samarasekera told *The Gateway*. "The last two years, because of the financial situation and the global crisis, we have had a one-year budget."

Samarasekera, who has been guiding the university through its recent budget cutbacks, has noted that after five years of six per cent budget increases, the last two years of zero per cent increases in the operating grant have still left the university ahead of where it was in the early 2000s.

"Obviously, we understand that things do change, so (the budget) is

not something that we can expect to be completely hardwired," Samarasekera said. "But at least some guidance on what it might look like will help."

Samarasekera added that the university's budget for the 2012-13 year still needs to be approved by the Board of Governors.

"I don't know what the funding is going to be for 2012-13. (I won't know) until next week, when the budget is announced," Samarasekera said.

■ **"This is about creating a bit more of a stable environment for us to operate in."**

INDIRA SAMARASEKERA
U OF A PRESIDENT

"That doesn't leave a lot of time for planning. Hence, I think the government has said and understands that they want to give some stability to post-secondary."

Since October 2011, university administration has been in intense talks with the government, according to an article penned by Samarasekera for the U of A's online blog *Colloquy*.

The post also states that the University of Alberta has the highest funding per student in Canada, and that over the past two years of cuts,

the university's priority has been protecting the quality of the educational experience.

"Quiet advocacy does work," Samarasekera wrote, adding that it's important for the university to remain united. "Inflationary pressures, salary increases and other pressures mean that we've had to make budget re-allocations. But throughout it all, we have done our utmost to invest in what is most important in the delivery of our mission — our people."

Although the provincial government hasn't made any promises, Samarasekera wrote that the university has been clear about its needs for a four per cent increase to its operating grant, stability in funding, and a three-year planning cycle.

Samarasekera pointed out that Premier Alison Redford has said she will provide some stability to universities in her various speeches regarding post-secondary education.

"This is about creating a bit more of a stable environment for us to operate in," Samarasekera said.

Samarasekera added that the University of Alberta has not yet received any feedback in relation to the proposed three-year funding cycle.

The Minister for Advanced Education and Technology was unavailable for comment as of press time.

The provincial budget is scheduled to be released on Feb. 9.

parking lot. UAPS attended the area, and found open liquor around a vehicle. UAPS spoke to a group who admitted to consuming alcohol earlier. UAPS warned the group and advised them to clean up the area.

SLEEP TIGHT

On the early morning of Feb. 2, UAPS observed two unaffiliated males sleeping inside a U of A building.

Both males had been previously dealt with by UAPS, including one male who had previously trespassed. UAPS issued a written trespass notice and a ticket to the trespassing male. Both males were directed off campus.

LURKING LOITERERS

UAPS received a report of two suspicious-looking people loitering inside the handicap washroom at University Terrace on Jan. 31. UAPS attended the area and located a male that had previously trespassed onto U of A property. Edmonton Police Service (EPS) was contacted for outstanding warrants.

BOOZIN' UP A STORM

On Feb. 3, UAPS received a report of a group consuming alcohol in the Saville Community Sports Centre

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campus crimebeat

COMPILED BY **Alex Migdal**

ROWDYFORD LIBRARY

On the early evening of Jan. 30, University of Alberta Protective Services (UAPS) received a report of a male trying to pick a fight with U of A students in Rutherford Library.

University of Alberta Protective Services officers attended the area and identified a non-affiliated male. UAPS issued the male a ticket for public intoxication and a written trespass notice. The male was directed off campus.



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DAN MCKECHNIE

Occupy protesters barred from entering U of A campus

Andrew Jeffrey
NEWS STAFF • @ANDREW_JEFFREY

Dozens of protesters were prevented from stepping onto University of Alberta grounds by police last Wednesday afternoon after claiming they would rally or camp on campus.

The protest, which included participants from the Occupy Edmonton movement and the Faculty of Arts solidarity group, started at Ezio Faraone Park before coming to a halt on the northern end of Saskatchewan Drive.

The group of protesters were stationed across the street from HUB Mall for several hours after being barred entrance by university officials, Edmonton Police Service (EPS) and University of Alberta Protective Services (UAPS). Nearly 20 uniformed EPS officers blocked the protesters' entrance to campus. The officers stated that non-students would be charged with trespassing if they crossed the street, while students would be also punished if they set up tents on U of A grounds.

Some of the protesters' complaints included the budget cuts and rising tuition fees affecting the U of A, which Occupy member Katie Nelson called a "huge standard of inequality." Nelson also took issue with the university asking protesters to remain off campus.

"This is an institution that's

supposed to foster free speech, open dialogue and advocacy that's blocking us right now," Nelson said. "We're here to fight for equality and we're not allowed to speak."

The U of A responded with an official statement on their blog, saying they had already provided Occupy protesters with an explanation as to why they would be unable to set up camp on U of A property.

"Simply, any attempt to establish an Occupy camp on University of Alberta property — which is private property — will put the U of A community at risk, and, further, it will interfere with the university's clear responsibility to effectively deliver its programs and services to students, staff and faculty," the blog stated.

Previous attempts to negotiate proved futile, as both sides claimed the other hadn't satisfied their demands prior to the protest.

Students' Union executives were also invited to appear and support students' rights to peaceful assembly.

"I'm not sure how much the university can do in order for the government to increase grants, to be honest," said Farid Iskandar, Students' Union vice-president (external). "They're working with us in order to have the Campus Alberta grant not be zero per cent again, because that does damage us. I hope that the government in the next

budget considers post-secondary as a priority moving forward, and has budget increases for the (U of A)."

Some students watching the protest nearby disagreed with the Occupy movement's requests.

"I think a lot of people over there have an oversimplified view of how (their requests) can happen and why it's happening," said U of A student Sean Bradley. "I don't think it's as simple as, 'We're going to start a revolution and everyone's going to listen, and we're all going to agree on certain things now.' There's always going to be conflict."

But protesters said it was important to send a message to U of A administration, despite others viewing their methods as ineffective.

"People may criticize this movement and say, 'They're not really making any difference,' or 'This is just for show,' but at the end of the day, I prefer to be on the side of people who are actually standing up for something," argued Brent Kelly, an SU arts councillor.

"We have to believe that we can make a difference. Because if we don't believe, then really we sacrifice democracy. If we don't act, if we don't try, if we don't stand up for a better world, then I don't really know what democracy would be."

The protesters stood on Saskatchewan Drive for nearly three hours before moving on to Whyte Avenue.

I-Week debate on Occupy movement raises heated questions and concerns

Scott Fenwick
NEWS STAFF • @SCOTTFENWICK

An International Week debate on whether the Occupy Wall Street movement should adopt a distinct set of policies led to heated exchanges between panellists and audience members Thursday evening.

The debate came just hours after protesters, which included some Occupy Edmonton members, marched through University of Alberta buildings to rally support for postsecondary education.

Edmonton Journal columnist Paula Simons, who spoke in favour of the debate's motion, argued that the Occupy movement would earn more credibility if it engaged in a larger conversation about policy, instead of focusing on camp sites.

"Right now, the Occupy Wall Street movement is undercutting its own credibility with the public, the media and politicians by using the language of demands, threats and extortion," Simons said, noting the difference between giving ultimatums and policy alternatives.

"If you want more thoughtful media coverage or time, if you want

more thoughtful public response to your protest, you have to offer people something to think about to engage them in conversation — not just provoke them into a reaction."

However, Chelsea Taylor, a panellist who spoke against the motion as an Occupy Edmonton spokesperson, was concerned about oversimplifying the movement's message and suppressing other valid ideas. She also questioned the idea of writing policies for a "broken system."

"A lot of people believe that the system is fundamentally broken. The monetary system, the democratic system — it's all been hijacked," Taylor said.

"We want to be non-hierarchical — all analysis is relevant analysis. That's why we're all over the place."

Comparisons to the American right-wing Tea Party movement were also made. U of A political science professor Greg Anderson, who spoke in favour of distinct policies, noted that the Tea Party members transformed the politics of politicians elected to Congress. As a result, they've halted President Barack Obama's policy agenda.

But Michael MacDonald, a U of A music professor who argued against the proposal, emphasised that having distinct policies is akin to "administration," and different compared to engaging in "politics."

"Politics happens when the system gets upended, when it gets pulled apart, when we engage in conversation — not in systematic and bureaucratically-controlled processes that articulate finite points," MacDonald said.

"This is politics — figuring out what kind of life we want, figuring out what kind of world we want."

Both sides grew passionate at certain points, with panellists interrupting each other, and audience members interrupting panellists during the question and answer session and closing statements.

General criticisms raised included media coverage of Occupy, the tone of the movement's messaging, and the capitalist system in general.

The final vote taken following the debate indicated that 60 per cent of the 200-person audience supported the distinct policies motion, up seven per cent from the poll conducted prior to the event's start.

World dodgeball record reclaimed by U of A

Simon Yackulic
NEWS STAFF • @YACKULIC

Cheers of “U of A! U of A!” broke out in the Butterdome last Friday with news that the University of Alberta had once again captured the Guinness World Record for the largest dodgeball game ever.

With 4,979 players, the U of A’s record-breaking game smashed the previous dodgeball record held by the University of California, Irvine, who took the title in September after hosting a dodgeball game with 4,000 players.

For the U of A, it wasn’t only students who competed — many staff and alumni came out to play, including one alumna who received her first degree from the U of A in 1968 and was one of the final 20 players to be eliminated.

A Guinness judge was also flown out to adjudicate the game. Philip Robertson, who attends about two record-breaking attempts a week on behalf of Guinness, was an enthusiastic observer of the record attempt.

He told those around him that the volleys of balls raining back and forth over the court reminded him of “what medieval warfare must have looked like” in terms of raining arrows.

“This is actually a really competitive record — this is the 13th dodgeball attempt,” Robertson said, explaining that it was important for record-challengers to abide by strict rules for the game. For the U of A, that included having at least 100 referees on hand.

“For this event, there are over 4,900 participants, and they’re allowed one ball for every four



SEA OF GREEN & GOLD A swarm of 4,979 players battled it out during the world record game, which was won by the gold team. MATT HIRJI

participants, so at least 1,250 balls,” Robertson noted.

Both teams of nearly 2,500 participants were evenly matched, and the game came down to a nail-biting end as each team was worn down to just five players battling across the court. Ultimately, for the third

year in a row, the gold team edged out a victory.

“It’s the most fun event on campus that I’ve ever attended,” said gold team member Michael Ross. “I’ve never seen so many U of A students get together behind one thing and have such a wicked

awesome time doing it.”

Chemistry professor Chuck Lucy was also wearing a gold team shirt, and might have been responsible for a few hundred students attending the event.

“I’m out here for school spirit,” Lucy said. “I saw it on the web and

asked my class of 400 to show up, but we start at one, and so I’m hoping we can actually make it for class today.”

While the game didn’t get underway until after 1 p.m., despite an advertised noon start, thousands of people eventually packed into the Butterdome and added another notch to dodgeball history.

Students’ Union Vice-President (Student Life) Colten Yamagishi, who worked for weeks to ensure a large turnout, was blown away by the response from the university community.

“It was absolutely amazing. This whole week, I never truly believed that it was going to happen, but I had confidence that the U of A loves dodgeball and loves this event, and I knew that we could come through,” Yamagishi said.

“It’s something that you can’t imagine in your wildest dreams until it comes true.”

Yamagishi said that he hoped either the University of California, Irvine, or another school would rise to the U of A’s challenge and continue the competition.

He also responded to speculation by Dean of Students Frank Robinson that, considering the growth in turnout for the dodgeball game over the past few years, the university could aim to get 10,000 participants out next year.

“I hope they come out and break it again,” Yamagishi said.

“We got to 5,000, and that said, we still had to turn people away, so we want UC Irvine to do it so that we can come back and do it again next year. Let them have a little taste, and then we can take back the record again.”

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New ALES culture network to showcase fashion in history

Ravanne Lawday
NEWS STAFF • @RAVIAZHARKO

Fashion gurus at the University of Alberta will be able to get their fix thanks to a new fashion network launched in the Faculty of Agricultural, Life, and Environmental Sciences (ALES).

Called the Fashion Culture Network, the group's aim is to direct insightful discussion about fashion and textiles. Many of the events that the group plans to hold will be themed around particular patterns, eras, or events in fashion.

Their focus is on blending different subjects, such as history, into periodical fashion movements, which they hope to spotlight in future events, according to Anne Bissonnette, head of the network and an assistant professor at the U of A.

Bissonnette said the main inspiration behind the Fashion Culture Network was not just to get U of A students involved, but the greater community as well.

"I think that a lot of what we do is very good because it aims specifically at students, but other people might know about it, and we want to give them a chance to participate," Bissonnette explained.

"A lot of the pieces we have in the collection are from community members. So, as a way to join student and community interest, we decided to start the Fashion Culture Network. I wanted to get the attention of different people from different walks of life who had stakes in what we do and an interest in what we'd like to do."

Bissonnette said film costumes, contribution from different departments and guest speakers may be possible inspiration for the events that the Fashion Culture Network hopes to host in the future.

"We'd like to keep it simple," Bissonnette said. "If we don't have a



PASSION FOR FASHION Anne Bissonnette is heading the new culture network. JULIANNA DAMER

very big following, then maybe we could do book groups. If we have a large following, I think that a presentation much like our first one would be perfect for that group. We just want to get people talking about fashion in an intellectual way, and I think there's a big need for that."

The network's first event was a presentation last week entitled "Off with their Wigs," presented by Bissonnette herself.

The presentation focused primarily on hair accessories during Marie Antoinette's era, specifically the history, popularity, and perception of wigs at that time compared to present-day fashion sensibilities.

Bissonnette opted for the topic in light of her appreciation for the over-the-top fashion trends of that era.

"To us, wigs can be a symbol of artificiality. But back then, it was similar to putting on makeup in the morning, as far as artificiality goes," Bissonnette noted.

The specific focus on hair was chosen by the group in order to relate to a large population of people. Hair is often easier, quicker, and

cheaper to update than clothing, says Bissonnette, and many fashion-forward individuals rely on that to quickly adapt themselves to changing trends.

"Trying to understand the way we dress led me to think about hair," Bissonnette said. "It often precedes clothing in terms of setting the bar for how fashion changes."

Although fashion is constantly evolving, Bissonnette argued that trends as early as the Antoinette era still help the community to understand today's fashion, while shedding light on how present-day fashion consistently draws inspiration from times past.

And despite the perception of superficiality in the fashion world, Bissonnette emphasized that the Fashion Culture Network will ultimately have some substance to it.

"We're hoping to get people who want to listen to intelligent topics about fashion — not just what some people would call fluff, like those magazines out there that are just trying to sell merchandise," Bissonnette said. "We want to give people some meaty topics."

Sim City meets academia in U of A's new community planning program

Jonathan Faerber
NEWS STAFF

If you've ever survived a lecture by playing Sim City, it might be worth your while to pay attention to the latest development in the University of Alberta academic scene: community planning.

The U of A's newest program, set to open to first and second-year students next fall, will prepare future planners for a community-building career that acting director Robert J. Summers calls "the real life job of Sim City."

The Planning B.A. and B.Sc (specialization) will be offered through the Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences this coming fall, and aims to integrate classroom learning with real world experience to prepare students for a career in planning or related municipal consulting roles.

Courses topics will range from urban development to regional issues to environmental planning.

The U of A's existing strengths in EAS and human geography, as well as several new courses and faces arriving in the fall, will provide students with access to the expertise they need to become successful planners, according to Summers.

The department also will be

supported by industry, where there is a currently large demand for planners. Professionals will be slated to teach courses on a sessional basis.

Summers added that the discipline, although new at the U of A, has a significant history in Alberta, as well as Canada, with programs already up and running throughout the country as planning grows in importance.

"It's a long tradition. It goes back officially well over 100 years with town planners having a big influence on the development of communities," Summers said, adding that modern planning has evolved greatly since then.

"I think the way to put it is we used to build a lot of things without thinking about them. More and more we think about what we build — we communicate about it and deliberate with community members, and we attempt to do a better job because we've learned that we have to live with things we've built," Summers explained.

The new program will also have a positive impact on Edmonton, which currently employs about 150 planners, with the same number employed by private firms and consultants in the city.

It's the students coming out of the U of A's program and other

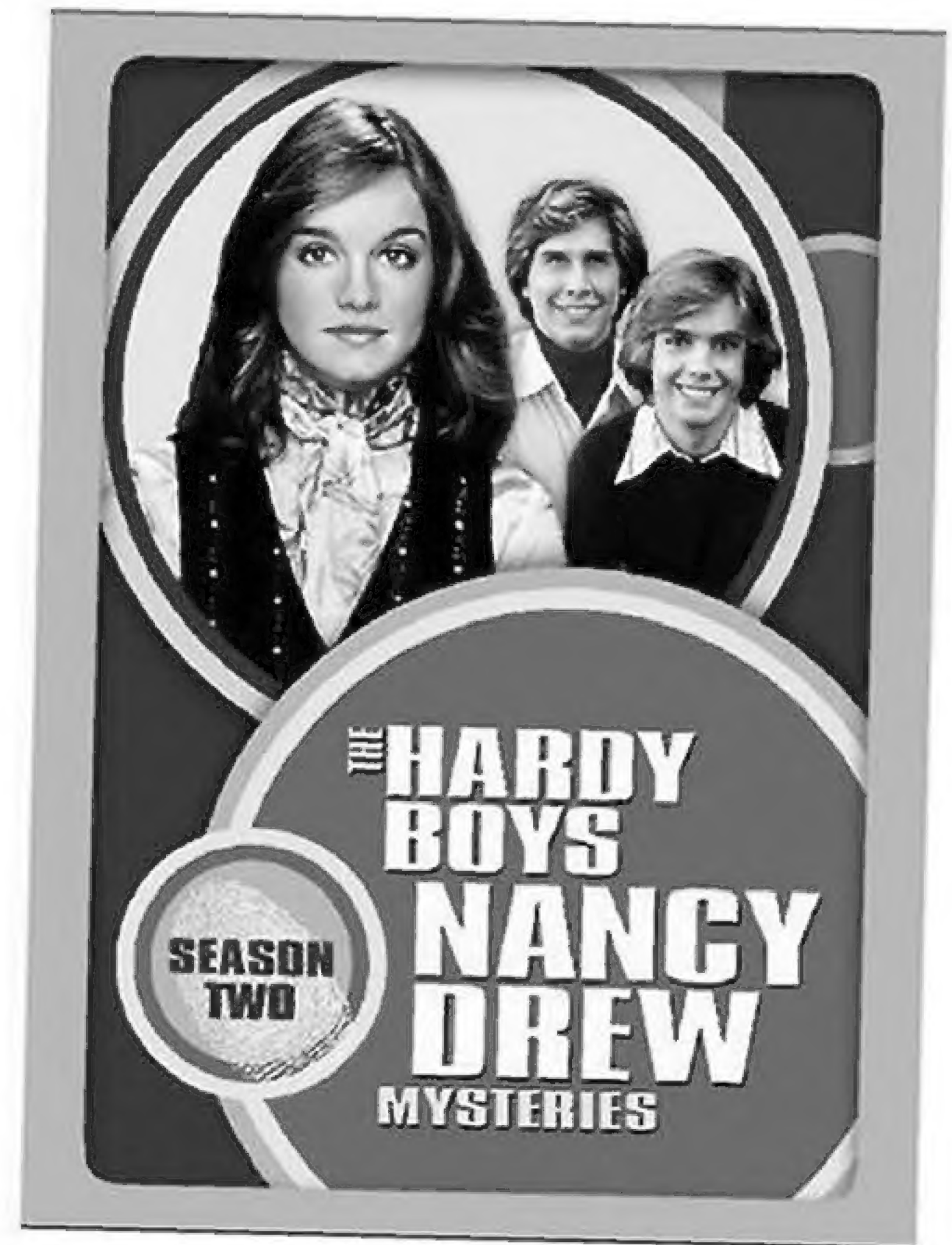
universities who will be able to address the planning issues affecting Edmonton, according to Summers.

"The people who might want to become planners ... are people who walk around and look at this street and say, 'Why can't it be nicer?' or 'Why can't it be more sustainable?'" Summers explained. "They look at the structure of our city ... and like to think about the environment around them and engage in it. They think, 'How does 118 Ave become more like Whyte Ave?' or the other way around," Summers added.

The U of A, however, has not applied for accreditation with the Alberta Professional Planner's Institute and the Canadian Institute of Planners, since the program is not yet operational.

Although this means that initial graduates may only receive provisional memberships with professional organizations before full membership is possible, Summer said the process is currently little more than a formality, given Alberta's high demand for planners.

"They just want graduates," Summers said of the industry. "It's an opportunity for Alberta students who want to study planning — you don't have to leave the province anymore to do an undergraduate degree, so it really opens doors for them."



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AMIRALI SHARIFI

Liberal leader pays U of A a visit

Rachel Singer
NEWS STAFF

Bob Rae, interim leader of the Liberal Party of Canada, addressed a range of hard-hitting topics to a large crowd at the University of Alberta last Friday.

The hour-long event held in the Education building saw a diverse audience that included students, members of the public, federal liberal senators and provincial liberals.

Rae kicked off his talk by addressing the Liberal Party's rebirth and its plans for the future.

"I think there is a tremendous spirit of renewal in the Liberal Party of Canada that is underway and that is taking place across the country, which is hugely encouraging," Rae said.

He said the revival stems from a movement of people who feel that the message of the Liberal Party and its ideals are important and valid. He added that in his view, Prime Minister Stephen Harper does not represent the kind of Canada people

would like to have.

Rae was asked about the Liberal Party's position on energy policy and sustainability. In Alberta, where revenue comes mainly from the oil industry, energy policy is a major concern — and most Albertans want one that supports Alberta oil. Rae spoke of his idea for a Canadian energy policy that involves all provinces and territories.

"We need a policy of the federal government and of the provincial government and of the industry and of consumers — everybody who is a stake-holder, which is a lot of people," Rae said. "To me, we have to look at an approach that stretches across the country, where we are trying to find the most economic means to supply energy efficiently and in an environmentally-sustainable way."

Rae also spoke of the Liberal Party's position on the Middle East, set against the Harper government's increasing support of the Israeli government.

"My view is that the Liberal Party should just keep on the track that we

are on, to just keep on saying we are supportive of Israel, and that we're also supportive of the creation of a state of Palestine," Rae said.

The final topic Rae addressed was the party's policy to legalize marijuana, speaking of the need for frank discussion about the topic of drugs, alcohol and the criminal system.

"We don't want our governments to be encouraging people to use drugs, which we (currently) don't," Rae said. "We have to be honest about this issue. Very few politicians have been prepared to say it is time for a really honest discussion about what is actually happening on the street and in homes and in families right across the country."

The Liberals are also seeing a surge in young people engaging with the party, which Rae hopes to see continue in the future.

"I think there is an openness to what we're talking about and I think there is also a sense that we are not hung up ideologically," Rae said.

Rae has been the interim leader of the Liberal Party since May 2011.

news briefs

COMPILED BY **April Hudson**

EMBEZZLEMENT CULPRIT CHARGED

A University of Alberta student who stole almost \$28,000 from the Business Students' Association (BSA) is being charged with theft by the Edmonton Police Service.

The student, who is also being charged under the university's Code of Student Behaviour, is scheduled to appear in court on Feb. 29. EPS spokesman Chad Orydzuk confirmed that police laid charges yesterday of theft over \$5,000 against the 21-year-old male.

The BSA revealed two weeks ago that \$27,745 had been stolen over the course of the summer from a BSA bank account and that the student responsible was under investigation. The BSA discovered the missing money in August 2011.

The identity of the student in question is being kept confidential until his court hearing.

PROTESTERS RETURN TO CAMPUS

Joined by members of Wednesday's Occupy protest, dozens of students rallied to Quad on Thursday afternoon for a flash mob protest against Faculty of Arts cuts and tuition increases.

Students gathered in Quad at 3:20 p.m. where the protest began. The group later proceeded to the Tory building, where an Occupy Wall Street debate was scheduled to take place.

"(Wednesday), (there) was a protest held just north of HUB, but unfortunately there was a crack-down on that protest, which I believe was an unnecessary and extravagant response to what was actually

happening," said protest spokesperson Aditya Rao.

"We are all students who are standing up in solidarity in order to protest the unreasonable crack-down that took place yesterday on our Occupy brothers and sisters," Rao said.

Thursday's student protestors marched into SUB, chanting loudly and waving signs that read "education is a right." Their path took them through the chemistry building and into CCIS, before they circled around and ended back at SUB. The protest then moved across campus.

"We are here today simply to fight for our right and express our feelings that we have the right to protest on our campus, a campus that we have helped pay for to exist," Rao said.

"We are here to say we are going to categorically oppose any tuition hikes — you can hear the cheer — no ifs, no buts, no education cuts. Education is a right, and we will not give up the fight."

The protest was trailed by a handful of UAPS officers who made no move to break up the protest.

NEW BOG CHAIR ANNOUNCED

Douglas Goss has been appointed chair of the Board of Governors for a three-year term starting immediately.

Goss currently works as counsel at the law firm Bryan Company LLP, and chairs a number of boards — including the TELUS Edmonton Community Board. Goss is also a U of A alumnus, with two degrees from the institution.

Goss will succeed acting chair Gordon Clanachan, who has been serving as BoG chair for the past three months.

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China Institute offers its take on Alberta energy



ENLIGHTENING ENERGY Gordon Houlden is the director of the China Institute. SUPPLIED

April Hudson
STAFF REPORTER • @APRIL_HUDSON

The provincial government has turned to the University of Alberta for advice on the Albertan energy situation, leading to the release of a report from the U of A's China Institute.

The report was released on Jan. 23 and commissioned by Alberta Energy last fall. Adding to the already extensive research the China Institute has done on Asia, the report gives a summary of China's current energy situation and includes recommendations on how Alberta can capitalize on its energy potential by building a long-term relationship with China.

"We're on the China side of the equation," said Gordon Houlden, director of the China Institute and co-author of the report. "(We've researched) how this energy business is structured on the Chinese side — who the governmental authorities are, how the state enterprises are managed and what their structures are, what the nature of their interest in Canada and what the nature of China's energy demand is."

Houlden said the Chinese economy is set to double over the next decade, noting that Chinese energy demand is rapidly ramping up, providing the perfect market for Alberta's overflowing energy supply.

"(Alberta) is in the situation of increasing surplus. We're going to have a surplus of oil even if Keystone was going to be approved fairly soon," Houlden said.

"Right now, we only have one customer for our oil, and that's the United States. (It's a) great market, but any business that has one

customer needs to be a little bit nervous."

The China Institute was commissioned to put together the report because they are well-known as a centre of knowledge on China, according to Houlden.

"We are the only analytical group in any Canadian university focused just on China," Houlden explained. "We are China-specific, and located right under the nose of the provincial government. We are delighted, and it's natural that they would turn to us."

Institute suggested to the Alberta government was for provincial and federal governments to work together and share the responsibilities of energy issues.

"Resources are owned and controlled by the provinces ... and the growth in Alberta has its own regulatory environmental check-offs and responsibilities," Houlden said. "There is unavoidably shared responsibility, and this needs to be recognized."

Houlden added that the report included some practical suggestions

■ **"I think (our report) enhances the reputation of the university as a place the government can go (for) policy-focused research."**

GORDON HOULDEN
DIRECTOR, U OF A CHINA INSTITUTE

The government has given the China Institute plenty of positive feedback on the report, which has piqued the interest of media and experts interested in the issue.

"We, the U of A, are a powerhouse," Houlden said. "There is no university on earth that has as much capacity for research on petroleum and natural gas ... We are number one in terms of articles published (and) number of researchers working on these issues."

Houlden added that the U of A will be signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Tsinghua University in China regarding energy collaboration.

"Tsinghua is one of the top two Chinese universities in terms of reputation, so to be associated with them is important," Houlden said. "It's very well connected, and an important partner for us."

One recommendation the China

of how Alberta can engage Chinese energy demand, such as a visit from Premier Redford to China.

"I think (our report) enhances the reputation of the university as a place the government can go (for) policy-focused research," Houlden said. "The China Institute (works) with its partners across campus to form the basis of our expertise on China."

As director of the China Institute, Houlden said he wants to see more courses on China offered at the U of A, as well as an increasing amount of students taking interest in the subject.

"China is just one of the big realities of the 21st century," Houlden said. "This may be the Asian century, but certainly China will play a key part in that, and for Albertans — and Canadians, for that matter — to better understand China is a worthwhile goal."

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iPad survey combats alcohol over-consumption in teens

Matt Hirji

NEWS STAFF • @MATTHIRJI

A teen who ends up in the emergency room because of alcohol over-consumption could get a hard lesson in economics, thanks to a three-minute survey developed by researchers at the University of Alberta.

The survey, which is conducted on an iPad, is intended to get teens who drink excessively to rethink their consumption habits by demonstrating how their consumption affects their quality of life in tangible ways.

"You fill out a questionnaire basically about how much you drink and how often you drink, and then the survey will feed back to you how much money you've spent in the last year for your alcohol use," explained emergency physician and U of A researcher Kathryn Dong.

"It tells you whether you could have gone on a vacation, or bought a computer with the money instead."

Those numbers amount to some surprising statistics. According to Dong, if a 14-year-old girl who drinks three coolers twice a week filled out the survey, the results would indicate that she spends \$1,248 a year. With that money, she could go to the movies 125 times or even buy two iPads.

Flashy technology aside, the survey's feedback could be an effective tool in changing teens' behavior and reducing the amount of alcohol they consume — something that, until now, has lacked hard and fast answers.

"Behavior is very complex and hard to tease out what types of intervention will actually make somebody change," Dong explained. "The real goal of the survey is to try and figure out if we can intervene and have some more long-



IPAD INNOVATION Kathryn Dong is using iPads to combat excessive drinking. MATT HIRJI

term benefits from that visit to the emergency department. In the emergency department, we are really good at dealing with the acute intoxication issue, but we're probably not quite as good at dealing with the underlying reasons of why people drink and preventing future problematic use."

Drawing on previous research, Dong and her team of researchers understand that with adult binge drinking, if an individual understands that their drinking behaviors are dramatically higher than their peers, it will encourage them to decrease their consumption.

In an attempt to see if this is effective in youth populations, Dong's survey also shows patients how their consumption behaviors compare to an average Albertan their own age.

"So, if you are a 14-year-old female, it shows you how much an

average 14-year-old female would drink and compares you to that social norm," Dong said.

"We think that if patients realize that — if they realize they are drinking way in excess compared to their peers, then that may have an effect on their drinking habits in the future. We'll see if this has a better effect compared to if we as physicians say, 'You really shouldn't drink, or you're drinking too much.'"

The fact that the survey is completed on an iPad may also help decrease consumption of the most commonly used substance amongst Alberta youth — alcohol.

"The iPad is new, it's trendy, and we thought that youth would relate to it," Dong said.

"The physician actually talking to you probably has a small effect ... We're wondering if this iPad survey may have more of an effect than our usual care."

Researchers hear call of the songbird

Amanda Strachan

NEWS WRITER

We may have more in common with chickadees than we think, according to a recent study conducted by a University of Alberta research team.

Chris Sturdy and his team in the psychology department are studying songbirds in order to better understand vocal learning, communication and cognition in animals — including humans.

"The one starting point that the lab took was to try to understand the communication systems," Sturdy said, referring to the launch of his work at the U of A 10 years ago.

The team of eight scientists, based in a laboratory funded by the National Science and Engineering Research Council (NSERC), works with the sounds of various chickadees, which include black-capped, mountain and chestnut-backed chickadees.

Although birdcalls are commonly perceived as an innate feature of these birds, researchers now know that they go through similar vocal learning processes to ours.

Just like human infants, chickadees listen to the sounds of their parents and attempt to repeat what they hear.

Studies have found that instead of responding to each individual stimuli and learning accordingly,

these birds can adapt quickly. Like humans, chickadees are able to sort information into categories instead of on a case-by-case basis. For example, the black-capped chickadees often found in Alberta's river valleys quickly increase their vigilance in response to the call of another flock. They do this by being able to identify it generically as a foreign flock.

Additionally, researchers have found that songbirds are highly influenced by social signals. Female chickadees tend to respond differently to the call of a subordinate male than to a dominant one.

"(We've found) a subset of people who are actually just about as good as a bird because they possess absolute pitch."

CHRIS STURDY
U OF A RESEARCHER

Sturdy's team has most recently been looking at the perception of musical phenomena.

"We've gotten some information from our comparisons between songbirds and humans," Sturdy said. "(We've found) a subset of people who are actually just about as good as a bird because they possess absolute pitch."

Humans with this skill are able to identify and sometimes recreate any given musical note.

Though many of these bird calls sound complex, we are in fact only hearing four note types. Scientists label them as A, B, C and D.

"Some of the evidence seems to point back to some really amazing western musical training," Sturdy explained. "When coupled with people that have some special abilities, that might seem to drive their performance. Every new thing that you find out just seems to lead to more questions."

Although his original focus on communication will not change, Sturdy noted that his research can occasionally vary in focus. For example, two former graduate students of Sturdy's approached their research from unique viewpoints. One earned her doctorate through the study of "animal personality," and the other by looking at the effect of human's environmental impact on songbird communication.

Similar research is currently going on in universities across Canada. Sturdy and his team are in contact with scientists at Dalhousie, McGill, and the University of Western Ontario, to name a few.

"It's really quite nice to be able to pick up the phone and dial anyone out of half a dozen people," Sturdy said. "You don't feel quite like your flying on your own."

2012 PLEBISCITE QUESTIONS

Do you support the creation of a Spring/Summer Universal Bus Pass (U-Pass) subject to the following conditions?

- 1) The U-Pass would provide unlimited usage of regular transit service through Edmonton Transit System, St. Albert Transit, and Strathcona County Transit during the Spring and Summer terms only to undergraduate students enrolled in at least one course for credit during the Spring or Summer terms within the participating municipalities' service area.
- 2) The cost of the U-Pass to each student would be mandatory to any student enrolled in at least one Spring or Summer course and would be equal to the cost of the previous Fall or Winter term U-Pass.
- 3) The Spring/Summer U-Pass program would begin in 2013.
- 4) The following Spring/Summer students may opt-out of the U-Pass:
 - a) Student enrolled in work-experience, co-op, or a practicum outside of the participating municipalities' service area for a majority of the four-month service period;
 - b) Students unable to make use of ordinary transit services by reason of disability; and
 - c) Students employed by Edmonton Transit System, St. Albert Transit, or Strathcona County Transit.
- 5) Students enrolled at Augustana or a study abroad program are exempt from the U-Pass.
- 6) The Students' Union shall be authorized to enter into the necessary contractual agreements with participating municipalities and the University of Alberta, contingent upon the inclusion of acceptable transparency and accountability provisions.
- 7) The U-Pass would expire upon the passing of a referendum to that effect, or the Students' Union deciding that it can no longer adhere to any of (1) through (6).

Do you support the creation of a dedicated fee to fund renovations to Students' Union facilities, subject to the following provisions?

- 1) The goals of the renovations shall be to:
 - a) minimize the environmental footprint of SU operations;
 - b) increase and improve the student services and club space;
 - c) create more meeting rooms for student groups; and
 - d) increase study, relaxation, and social space.
- 2) The fee would be assessed in each term to undergraduate students enrolled in at least one course for credit, subject to the following conditions:
 - a) The fee shall be \$9 per term in Fall and Winter Terms;
 - b) The fee shall be \$4.50 per term in Spring and Summer Terms;
 - c) The fee shall be optional for students that are registered only in courses designated as off-campus and students that are registered only in courses at Augustana campus;
 - d) The fee shall not be assessed until a Design Development Report is approved by Students' Council; and
 - e) Undergraduate students would be unable to alter or rescind the fee as long as any debt incurred for renovations remains outstanding.
- 3) Upon the full repayment of all debt for renovations described in (1), Students' Council shall be empowered to cease collection of the fee. Should this not occur, fee revenues would be placed in a dedicated reserve to be spent only on major Students' Union renovations.

Registration of members for both "Yes" and "No" sides will take place in

3-06 SUB at 6pm, Friday, February 17.

All undergraduate members are invited to register as a member of a side.



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EDITORIAL COMMENT

Not everything is police brutality

YOU'VE HEARD THIS ONE BEFORE: NEW ALLEGATIONS OF POLICE brutality have been incited after a recent videotape surfaced showing a Montreal police officer hitting a protester in the stomach during a peaceful demonstration against tuition hikes last month. An internal investigation has been launched, but so far it's the word of the protesters against that of the police officer involved.

Alleged police brutality has become a common headline in Canada over the past few years, especially with protests and demonstrations popping up all over. But it's time to stop seeing justifiable police action as a suppression of free speech and an excessive use of force, and start seeing it for what it is — average people trying to uphold the law and do their jobs, sometimes getting carried away in the process. In the case of the Montreal officer, almost every newspaper that picked up the story lumped him in with another famous case of Montreal police brutality: the repeated tasing of a man in 2007 that led to his death and resulted in the suspension of two officers.

What you don't get to hear about, and what many of those newspapers left out, are allegations that the protesters in question had surrounded the officers' vehicles and blocked them from leaving the parking lot. The video of this alleged brutality, taken by one of the protesters, only shows the actions this officer took, leaving out the provocation behind them.

Of course, an unprovoked attack is never acceptable and it should not go unpunished. Even when there is cause for action, use of force should go hand-in-hand with careful consideration. But when an officer is facing hundreds of people yelling at him, and then those people prevent him reaching his vehicle, the question of what constitutes excessive use of force becomes murky — even if the protesters do not physically attack him. Police can understandably feel threatened by large crowds, because they can very quickly turn into riots.

It's more imperative than ever to see the shades of grey surrounding police action. A simple push or a blow is lumped into the category of police brutality alongside excessive tasing, but there are obviously different degrees of force here.

What's more, officers who serve in today's police force are charged with the impossible task of walking an unfairly thin line, in which their judgement is scrutinized from every angle by anxious observers across the country. These people feel obliged to condemn measures taken, even though they may not be aware of the full context of police actions.

In the Vancouver riots following the Stanley Cup finals, police were criticized heavily for not anticipating, preventing and containing the riot. At the same time, as violence broke out in the streets, they were criticized for using brutal methods to fight rioters. It is a win-win situation for provocateurs.

It's become far too common to blame police and avoid taking personal accountability for finding out what actually happened. In some cases, the officers in question are in the wrong. In many other cases, they are simply doing their job. For this, and for the misdemeanours of a few, the entire force is viewed with suspicion and stuck with allegations of corruption. Police brutality has become not only expected, but encouraged and provoked by demonstrators who consistently push the limits of peaceful protesting looking for a reaction.

It is all too easy — and, frankly, a cop-out — to call something "police brutality." The term carries weight. It shocks people. It outrages them. The media has a field day with it, the courts throw out cases, and the officer in question has their reputation, and in some cases their career, irrevocably tarnished.

But it's silly and immature to throw all the blame on the boys in blue no matter the particulars of the situation. The time has come to step back and take a look at the bigger picture. The police force is in place to do a specific job — one that many citizens sometimes find unsavoury. But if you do not have the courage to strap on a uniform and step out on the street beside them to face down threats to public safety, you have no right to blame them for taking warranted measures to ensure that the public remains safe.

April Hudson
STAFF REPORTER

EDITORIAL HAIKU

Dodgeball is ours

UC Irvine sucks
We took that record back good
Threepeat motherfu—

Ryan Bromsgrove
OPINION EDITOR



ANTHONY GOERTZ

letters to the editor

Politics should have no part of dodgeball game

Next year, dodge the politics.

Thank goodness Bob Rae was able to attend the University of Alberta's attempt to reclaim the world record for the largest game of dodgeball. Without the spectacular star power and astonishing athletic prowess of the 63-year-old interim leader of the Third Party in the House of Commons, we might not have made it to 5,000... right?

I somehow doubt it.

In reality, giving Mr. Rae a captive audience of thousands of university students was strangely out of place and entirely inappropriate. The Students' Union and the University of Alberta should have known better than to sponsor Mr. Rae's jabs at the Prime Minister and in doing so endorse the politicization of an event that certainly didn't need politics to be a success.

Though I'm sure there are many Albertans who would have welcomed the opportunity to knock Mr. Rae out of a friendly game of dodgeball, I hope next year's organizers will dodge the urge to promote a particular political ideology.

Stephen Dollansky
LAW III

Occupy protest should have been welcomed

Student mobilization is not a recent phenomenon. Rather it is an integral part of our history and democracy.

The U of A has become accustomed to its privileged position in society and appears to have lost touch with the interests of its most important constituents — its students.

Ever-rising tuition and frequent cutbacks to faculty budgets and members aptly demonstrates this fact. Furthermore, after last week's crackdown, if students rose up en masse to raise their concerns with the administration losing touch, one must wonder what other heavy-handed actions would be taken to suppress their voices.

The disproportionate number of police cars, vans and even the helicopter roaming campus last week was a frightening demonstration of the university overreacting to a peaceful protest. I would argue that this is a true portrayal of the issues currently facing our society. The use of such force is a tactic to embed fear in a population to ensure they would never oppose those with authoritative power. Is that what democracy looks like?

Occupy is a movement, not a membership club and it takes form according to the injustices occurring in our society. Occupy Edmonton participated in the rally in solidarity with U of A students as the protest was a collaboration of students, professors and citizens. It is important to remember that it is the citizens who must keep those in power accountable. Individuals and students involved in the Occupy Edmonton movement are citizens of this society and should be granted the right to voice their concerns, not stigmatized as "trespassers"

and refused entry to a public institution. Furthermore, students at the university should not be limited to only mobilizing with students. We need to start respecting our peers, who are human beings, and stand together in our common struggles.

If anyone can sympathize with our difficulties when we pay high tuition fees or earn a degree only with thousands of dollars of debt, we need to embrace this support, not turn it away. By opposing Occupy Edmonton we are only opposing those who are willing to stand up for our very own interests. This is disappointing and shameful. Our education belongs to us and we need to start taking action for our future, together.

Samandeep Brar
ARTS IV

Letters to the editor should be sent to letters@gateway.ualberta.ca (no attachments, please). If you want to be a rebel, deliver them directly to us via paper airplane. We can no longer accept submissions via morse code after what happened last time, however. You know who you are.

The Gateway reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity, and to refuse publication of any letter it deems racist, sexist, libellous, or otherwise hateful in nature. The Gateway also reserves the right to publish letters online.

Letters to the editor should be no longer than 350 words, and should include the author's name, program, year of study, and student ID number to be considered for publication.

College education not a right



Ryan Bromsgrove
OPINION EDITOR

It doesn't matter how loud you yell, post-secondary education is not a right — and those who don't advocate for it aren't necessarily uninformed. It might just be that the reason they aren't out there protesting with you is because they may disagree with the cause.

Protestors last week chanted, "Education is a right" as they marched around campus. I'm taking it to mean that post-secondary education should be free, a demand they also yelled out on a number of occasions. The problem is it can't be free. What they mean is that it should be entirely tax-funded.

But as it is right now, the provincial government already subsidizes a substantial percentage of your tuition, in line with the argument that having many college-degree-holders enriches the whole society. But it doesn't pay for your entire tuition, because at the same time, a university degree is a personal investment in yourself and your future. You have to take some of the responsibility, because what you get out of it doesn't entirely belong to those who funded it.

The demand for 100 per cent post-secondary funding reeks of self-entitlement and would require an unpopular substantial tax hike. This would penalize society at large for the benefit of the few going to college, and give them nothing in return. Through taxes, you fund the police, and you can call them if you need them. You fund healthcare, and can get help when you're sick or injured. But if you fund some kid's degree, you can't phone him up and demand he answer questions based

"The demand for 100 per cent post-secondary funding reeks of self-entitlement, and would require a substantial tax hike. This would penalize society at large for the benefit of the few going to college, and give them nothing in return."

on his field. He's not your personal Alex Trebek.

No one would argue that when you earn a degree in a particular country you must stay there. But if Canadian taxpayers fund your whole degree, they have every right to demand you never leave. And if you end up not working in your field, society wouldn't claim the right to force you to. The protestors would essentially have everyone pay for students to screw around experimenting with no repercussions. There's no 100 per cent return on the taxpayer's investments, so there's no justification for 100 per cent funding.

There's a moral principle that more or less everyone can agree on: don't take other people's stuff. Nobody likes taxation, but we accept it on the condition that the stuff that is taken — hard-earned money — is spent on things that society can share in equally. If the public pays for your whole degree, the public owns your whole degree. If you want to own your degree, if you want the freedom to do with it as you like, you can't demand we all take more of other people's stuff to pay for it.

What is important, and what should be a right, is equality of access. But we have that. I'm a white male, and I realize that comes with a significant degree of privilege, but I was born far from rich. Yet thanks to student loans — available to anyone willing to apply — and thankless low-paying part-time jobs, I'm almost done, even with the admittedly shady mandatory non-instructional fees.

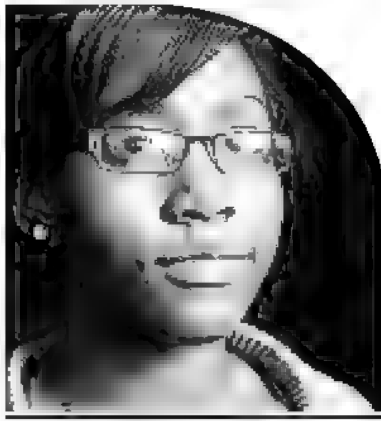
It's true that some people will fall through the cracks, some are in

worse situations than others and many don't want the debt. And while that's unfortunate, handing out post-secondary education is not the answer. Yes, I'll be graduating with a hefty debt, but it's debt I'm happy to pay off. The people of this province and this country have trusted that I'll put their borrowed money to a good cause, and I intend to pay them back.

You can't have it all, but that seems to be the mentality of the protestors. And what's outright offensive is that they claimed to be fighting on behalf of all students, with an implicit assumption being that those who didn't stand with them just didn't know better. While I won't speak for every student who didn't attend, the laughter and murmurs that followed Thursday's march were not all signs of ignorance. There are 30,000 undergrads on campus, and the march consisted of 60 students and Occupiers combined.

Yes, some of those 30,000 undergrads might well be uninformed, but not 29,940 of them. Those who want to protest tuition and fees may do so, but they may not claim to speak for all students with blatant disregard for the many who disagree profoundly with their cause when their numbers are below 0.2 per cent of the student population. Post-secondary education is not a right, and those of us who embrace the personal responsibility and pride of earning our own degree without demanding that taxpayers fund the whole thing are not all stupid, ignorant or under-informed. And it's our university too.

Not all fees are worth it



Lola Adeyemo
OPINION WRITER

Mandatory non-instructional fees are probably one of the worst things about the university. Each year, we, the financially unstable population of students, are mandated to pay about \$900 worth of these fees minimum. Over a four-year university career, that's \$3,600 in compulsory additional fees.

While you were paying your tuition on the Jan. 31 deadline, you were probably wondering, "I'm taking five classes, why are there 15 items here?" I totally understand. I was there too, contemplating why I denied myself that wonderful pair of shoes, instead giving hard-earned money to the university without knowing why. So I set out to understand these extra fees.

When we applied to university, we wanted an education, and that's what we should be paying for. All other mandatory fees should earn their place by funding things that are useful.

I'll let the Student Services Fee slide because the university explains that this goes to services from CAPS to bursaries and emergency funding. Even though each of us is charged \$54.50 every semester, some of the services come in handy once or twice.

As for the SU fees though, we pay \$134.76 every year for our much-coveted SU Membership and the SU Dedicated Fees. I understand that the SU has to maintain SUB and provide what are supposed to be wonderful programs with our membership fee. I also dig that we have to sustain the campus radio station and other informative media (including this newspaper). But we might want to re-evaluate the efficiency of some of these other services paid for with the SU Dedicated Fees.

Aside from the Refugee Student/

World University Service of Canada, we also give money to the Campus Recreation and Enhancement Fund. You're probably wondering, is this different from the Athletics and Recreation Fee? Apparently it is, but your money seems to be going to the same place twice.

The SU Dedicated Fees also include the Student Legal Services, which is a great service but not one that every student should be coerced into funding. Shouldn't students have a right to decide which student non-profit organizations we support? Can't the Faculty of Law fund this through the faculty student fund since this organization gives law students a work experience opportunity? The administration needs to rethink the ethics of some of its funding decisions.

CoSSS is the fee that aggravates me the most. The university website attempts a brief explanation, but it still doesn't make sense. It explains that the money is "used to enhance a range of non-instructional services that benefit students, including risk management programs, support for common circulation space and sustainability initiatives. This fee is designed to sustain existing non-instructional services for students."

Oh really? Who would have guessed? And the other non-instructional fees are not used for non-instructional services? I can get the sustainability initiative, but what does "common circulation space" even mean? The wonderful thing is that they don't list specific programs that the money is going to. I guess we don't really have to know. "Risk management programs" sounds wonderfully ambiguous.

I could go on and whine about the faculty-specific fees or rant about paying \$145.68 every year for the Registration and Transcript Fee. But you have to know when to stop. All I have left to do is throw my hands up in the air. These fees aren't going anywhere. That pair of shoes is going to have to wait.

The endless argument over which way to walk down HUB

HUB walkers should behave like they're driving cars on roads



Josh Schmaltz
POINT

When you drive around the city, I assume that you make an effort to stay on the right side of the road. If you don't drive, I imagine that you are appreciative of the bus driver who keeps his bus out of oncoming traffic. Having defined directions of travel on a roadway helps everyone get to where they are going much faster. It makes sense to extend the same rules to crowded footpaths.

The concourse in HUB Mall is narrow, and there are two defined paths. Everyone is in a hurry. It's most efficient if everyone going the same direction walks on the same side of HUB. This should be a ridiculously simple idea, but many people still refuse to follow the important convention.

Those miscreants justify walking on the wrong side of HUB on the fact that people line up like complete idiots at the food stalls. Here's a tip if you are lining up: stay as far to the right as possible when waiting for your delicious Ho Ho's, and try not to block the main path. Everyone trying to get from one end of HUB to the other before class starts will appreciate your courtesy.

The next issue involves people who find it necessary to walk in groups of three in HUB. If you want to walk three abreast, then you had better be power-walking.

On the Whitemud, it is really annoying when you are stuck behind a line of vehicles travelling the same speed and blocking all three lanes. I don't want to get stuck behind you. And if you dare slow me down, I will wish infinite doom

upon you and your family — and I've got connections when it comes to doom.

If I'm stuck behind you, I'm not jumping the meridian to drive into oncoming traffic to get by. You need to leave some space for people to pass you if you are not moving as fast as they are. This applies on the freeway, and it should equally apply in HUB. It's not rocket science, and not an invitation to overtake in the oncoming lane.

As you walk the wrong way down HUB, I will happen to step in front of you at the last minute, and I will try to walk right through you.

Perhaps the worst offenders in HUB are the people who seem to think that they are entitled to walk wherever the hell they want because somehow their time is more valuable than yours or mine. These assholes stoke my rage. Your weaving about from side to side in HUB causes delays for everyone else following the rules.

Rest assured that I will go out of my way to inconvenience you. As you walk the wrong way down HUB, I will happen to step in front of you at the last minute, and I will try to walk right through you. Unless you are a linebacker for the Bears, I'm going to win that battle.

I challenge all other like-minded students out there to shame those people who insist on walking on the wrong side of paths, who stop walking on the left side of LRT escalators, and who refuse to open a second door into a building, creating that needless funneling effect. Perhaps with a bit of work we can finally bring some justice to the halls of this campus.

We're all capable of walking both lanes without catastrophe



Andrew Jeffrey
COUNTERPOINT

Every student seems to be able to find something about HUB to hate — usually to do with other students. I can agree with most of those problems. People taking up the whole hallway when your bus is about to leave? They're annoying. The ones veering left and right so you can't pass them when you're running to catch that bus? They're even worse. And slow walkers who block your way long enough that by the time you step outside your bus is driving away? They need to step off of a cliff. But getting mad at other people walking the "wrong way" down HUB? That's one complaint I don't understand.

I realize this is a big pet peeve for some people, but the amount of complaining is ridiculous. Walking down the left side of HUB isn't some horrible atrocity representing a breakdown in society. No, it's the obvious thing to do when there's too many people walking down the "right side" of HUB. Especially between classes when one side may get more congested than the other, if you've got places to be, then you should walk on whichever side will get you there faster.

But of course, this results in terrible consequences for those unsuspecting, innocent victims sticking to the norm of walking down HUB on the right side. They could very well be bumped, pushed, shoved, and stumble, stagger or possibly even fall to the ground if they're not smart enough to be able to look where they're going.

There's a really simple solution though. If you

see someone walking towards you, all you need to do is stop, take one or two steps in either direction, maybe shift your body to the side a little, and your problem is solved. You passed out of harm's way, avoided human contact and successfully avoided the terrible situation of accidentally bumping into someone.

Even the very idea that there's a right and wrong way in HUB is silly. Many like to compare it to a road where if you drive on the wrong side, you could crash and seriously hurt not only yourself but another driver. But people stay on the right side of the road because they don't want to die in a car crash. If you walk into the oncoming traffic of HUB, at worst you may run into someone and fall. Sure that could be embarrassing, but it's not a car crash.

Yes, maybe food or books will get dropped but even that won't happen if everyone's smart enough to see someone else is walking towards them. We're all university students here, we should be able to handle complex problems like, "How do I move around this person walking in my direction?" If you fail that problem, you still don't need to worry. There's no twisting metal, breaking glass or fatal injuries, only the minor inconvenience and fleeting feeling of annoyance, followed by nothing.

This isn't an issue that should bother people on campus, and it's definitely not an issue worth complaining about to your friends or sending angry Three Lines Free entries to *The Gateway* about. When there's so much else to stress about in university, why give yourself one more thing to hate? Why create another problem to complain about? Instead we all just should accept that every once in awhile we may need to take a detour down the wrong side of HUB, we might get pushed around for that and in the end none of it will really matter or be worth thinking about.

Akinator is a big dumb jerk



Darcy Ropchan
OPINION STAFF

Ladies and Gentlemen, the machines have taken over. I never thought it could happen, but computers have become self-aware. It sounds like something out of a science fiction movie: a computer character who knows what you're thinking. But no, the time has come. The machines have risen.

The website, or rather the person on the website I'm referring to, is a genie named Akinator. For those of you who don't know, Akinator is a smug prick who lives on the internet and seems to take pleasure in making you look like a bumbling fool.

Akinator likes to play the game of 20 questions; well, that's all he does. You think of a character, living or dead, real or fictional, and he tries to guess who it is. It seems simple enough, but Akinator knows all. It doesn't matter how small or insignificant your character is, Akinator knows, and he usually figures it out in the first 20 questions. It's actually kind of creepy how accurate he is.

You think you know how to outsmart him. "Oh, I'll just pick the most random background character from a movie that I can think of," you'll say to yourself. Doesn't matter, Akinator knows who you're thinking of before you even know who you're thinking of. And he tells you who that person is with a huge shit-eating grin on his face.

"I love playing with you," he says after beating you. Can you believe the nerve of this guy? As if being beaten



HOW DID HE KNOW? Seriously, I thought I'd beat the smug douchebag this time. SUPPLIED

by an all-knowing cyber genie wasn't terrifying enough, he rubs your face in it afterwards. He pretends like it was fun playing against you, but what he's really saying is, "Ha ha you got beat by a computer, dumbass."

On the extreme off-chance Akinator doesn't know who you're thinking of, he'll try to play it off like it's no big deal. Completely forgetting all those other times where he rubbed it in your face.

"Looks like I don't know who you're thinking of," he says sheepishly. But I'm not letting him off that easy. I'll never forget all those other times he made me look like an idiot. If he can't guess who I'm thinking of, I make sure he knows how stupid he is.

I'll laugh and mock him ruthlessly, making sure he, and everyone who's sitting by me, knows that I beat Akinator at his own game. It doesn't matter if

it took me 30 tries, I won damn it.

"Ha I won, I'm better than you," I yell. Nothing can stand in my way. I don't care if I'm in the library, in class or in the waiting room at the hospital. I make sure everyone can hear my victory cry and know that I beat Akinator.

But then he makes me tell him who I was thinking of, so that the next poor sucker who tries that character fails — and preventing me from proving I won to anybody else.

Akinator is a bastard. If they can make a genie who can pretty much read your thoughts, what's next? A robot that picks out clothes for you? I don't need a machine to tell me what to do. If you're thinking of testing Akinator, don't. You don't want him in your head. He knows what you're thinking. Get out of my head Akinator, get out of my head.



Got something that you need to get off your mind? Either email us at threelinesfree@gateway.ualberta.ca, tweet @threelinesfree, or message us at www.thegatewayonline.ca/threelinesfree

There's something incredibly annoying about the scuffing sound made by people who drag their feet when they walk. It's really not that hard to just lift your feet! Sometimes in class when a guy is sitting in front of me, I want to hug him. *sigh* I think I'm lonely. Sorry for interrupting two minutes of your facebook time to stand up for your goddamn rights I'll take active noisy political students over passive inactive apolitical students any day. Education is a right!

Work harder and maybe you won't have to occupy a tent in a parking lot.

We can get 4979 people to go play a dodge ball game, but we can't get 20 people to write a letter to their MP protesting Bill C-11. **Lame.**

Dear pretentious dick in Hist 207, No one cares about how much you know. Put your hand down and stfu, fucking keener.

Dear Comp. Sci student, When does the narwhal bacon? That's enough, I'm out.

Body odor fumes lingering in my nostrils take a shower please

FUCK YEAH, a girlfriend!

Been SEAKING one for a while. She likes the old memes.

Turds like you don't care,

But poetry of the gods,

Takes the name: Haiku.

Sharing my wisdom,

Cuddling: Not love making;

It's love creating.

Red-haired engineer: Not certain I'm the intended target but I'm definitely worried about my choice of coat.

People using computer labs to play starcraft are starting to become a major problem. Both in terms of taking up spots from others and the constant noise of button mashing.

They're everywhere....oversized glasses, ethnic scarves, tribal tunics, leather moccasins..."oh, this old thing? It's a bullfighters cape from Madrid"...BECAUSE I'M SO FUCKING ECLECTIC BITCH.

herping the derp itsurewouldbeasier to get around campus if their were less doors...

#ccisatbreaksucks

Girl in my CMPUT115 class who stalls the prof with stupid questions every 10 minutes: Either save your "what-if's" for after the lecture or experiment on your own time.

Okay, so just ignore me and pretend I don't exist. Fuck you. Whatever, I'm gunna take the high road and bitch about you on three lines free

Dear Opinion Writer, Based on your article, you are ignorant and you will lose out on the perks of being Greek. Sincerely a very involved Greek who will accomplish more in life than you ever will.

"She's a party girl with a, bad habit! bad habit! for drugs!"

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DISCOVER WHAT'S NEW AT



Occupy protest a total mess



Tyler Hein
OPINION STAFF

It's easy to dismiss Occupy Edmonton without giving the movement any real thought. It became even easier after their brief attempt to occupy quad formed, floundered and failed within the span of only a few hours. Cynicism would sum up the whole movement as stupid. It is.

But it's not that the ideas are stupid — because they're not. Or that the people are stupid — though some of them undoubtedly are. It's that the movement and its protests have been consistently done in the wrong way, and for the wrong reasons.

Something they have in spades is idealism, but they lack any real plan to implement any of their proposed "demands." Ideas are the sparks of change, but alone, they rarely change anything — a concept that this group cannot seem to comprehend.

Despite all their good ideas, and ignoring the lack of a concrete or possibly successful plan, the other main problem with the Occupy movement is the people in it. The people who attempted to occupy campus, and the Occupy movement as a whole, are too blindly self-deluded with their sense of right to see the flaws in what they're doing and how they're going about doing it.

In our school-specific example, a major complaint was the rising cost of tuition. One would be hard-pressed to find a student who is pro-tuition-increases, but they also protested against corporate sponsorship



SITTING DOWN FOR YOU Or at least until they realized it was cold and slushy. DAN MCKECHNIE

within the school. Yet the members of Occupy won't accept that you can't get rid of corporate sponsorship and have lower tuition — at least not without huge tax increases, a subject they failed to address.

It was actually kind of sad to see so many people who were so clearly dedicated to what they were doing only to see an average of 60 students protesting at one time. When they returned on Thursday, they were met with general apathy at best and downright anger at worst when they marched through the school disrupting classes and students working as they noisily chanted that "education is a right."

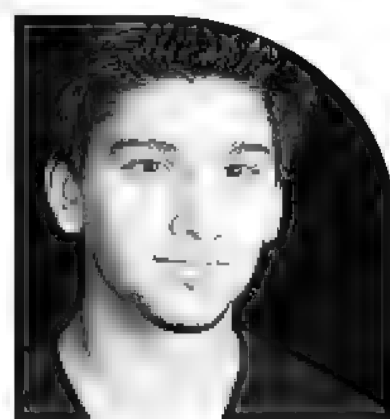
By joining forces, Occupy Edmonton probably ruined the chances of the Faculty of Arts Staff Solidarity rally from succeeding. With Occupy's presence, you get the bodies in the protest, but tied in with them you get their cause of attempting to

force some sort of complete, complex overhaul of the system. Occupy being there distracted from the real, tangible problem of the cuts to the Faculty of Arts and associated problems affecting the rest of the student body.

By attaching the name Occupy, they attracted the wrong kind of people to the solidarity rally: this was the vocal minority that uses exaggeration and hyperbole to make a point, and does so while disturbing as many people as possible.

Watching them hurl insults at police officers from across a street last Wednesday made me glad that their protest was such a middling disappointment. It's harsh to say, and sad to recognize, but very often the attitudes of the people who attend protests like these are what causes them to fail. These are the people who should have the impetus to spark change, but they'll continue to fail if they carry on like this. We need better.

Valentine's Day not an invitation to complain



Alex Seifert
OPINION WRITER

"Why do you need an excuse to show your love? Everyday should be Valentine's Day!"

Sound familiar? It's usually one of your single friends. The one you've frequently heard call it "Single-Awareness Day." The one who abstains from brainstorming Valentine-date ideas, boycotts candy grams and vetoes any conversation surrounding sex as February draws near. Sure, there are a handful of guys like this. But the many are girls, too.

How could you possibly pretend every day was Valentine's Day? It's entirely unrealistic. Nobody has that kind of time. I don't know about you, but I haven't got a flux capacitor or time-turner lying around my room.

There's this huge misconception about Feb. 14. Correct me if I'm wrong, but it's not about the one time a year you show your love. It's about the one time of year everybody understands that love is the priority. You can't be expected to take off every day from work, from school and from every other part of your life for that significant other. It's like Christmas: you don't need a special excuse to see your family — well, maybe you do — but the holidays are when everybody understands that family comes first.

And for those poor souls who just broke up with their partners, who were deceived or misled and don't want to love again? We're all sincerely

sorry for you. But just because there are single people out there, bitter or not, does that mean I should also stomp around moping and grumbling, then spend my night alone on the couch with a tub of Ben & Jerry's watching *Bad Boys II*? Hell no!

Even those who are so hopeful that this'll be the year the love of their life finally realizes who they are, they need to make a move or move on. Sounds awfully like *The Bachelor*, but that's the card game. Either bet or fold. If you keep letting things pass you by, you won't lose any chips — but you won't win any either. So, if Valentine's Day is making you feel insecure or flat-out shitty, shut up and suck it up. It's not the world's fault, so why should the world have to pay for it?

But then there's the arguments about the crazy consumerism: people feeling compelled and forced to buy shit they don't need or genuinely don't want to buy in order to express their love. Welcome to every widespread and widely-publicized holiday on your *Sports Illustrated* calendar. If your special someone is so damn needy and gift-obsessed, then I'm afraid you're faced with a daunting life-choice: either revise what you're looking for, or switch to a job that can afford that kind of spending.

The basic thrust of my rather pedantic and whimsical discussion is this: if Valentine's Day really means so little to you, then the rest of the free world and I would kindly and politely ask you to shut the fuck up and treat it like any other day. On the other hand, you could go gallivanting off in search of some sexy rum-pus with a sweet-smelling person like the rest of us.



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The never-ending quest to invent bigger, better fees



**Opinion
Staff**
GROUP COMMENTARY

The U of A is running out of money. But not to worry, *The Gateway* is here to help brainstorm a few new awesome fees to keep us afloat in the moneyless months to come.

Josh Schmaltz

My pick for the newest mandatory non-instructional fee will be the First Floor Cameron Library Renovation Fee. Yeah, it was just renovated, but we need to do it again. After being exposed to 47,000 packages of Ichiban Noodles, 83,000 Pizza Pops, and 26 Lean Cuisines, first floor Cameron now permanently reeks of Satan's asshole.

Basically, this problem is worse than deadly black mould, so it may be necessary to demolish the entire thing and rebuild from scratch. Rebuilding Cameron would also mean new bathrooms, so no more muddy footprints on the toilet seats. I'm not sure what the hell you guys were doing up there anyway — I tried spinning around on the toilet like in *GoldenEye* and I totally didn't get up into the ventilation system.

How much will this new fee be? I'm not sure yet, but I will absolutely use the CoSSS trick to get it approved. First, I'll propose charging double the amount that I actually need. Students will complain and protest and carry on about the affordability of education. Next, I will back off and say I can get by with only half



DO IT AGAIN If Cameron Library looks this good after one renovation, how awesome would it be after a second? RYAN BROMSGROVE

of my original request, so it's totally not that bad, right? Students will rejoice in their victory, and I get my shiny new library.

Alexander Sorochoan

The university is hemorrhaging money. After spending tons on high-level administrative salaries and housing, they can't afford phones for the English department. The only obvious solution to the lack of funding is simple: squeeze even more money out of the students, already living off of nothing but instant noodles and cheap beer, with more outrageous fees.

Now if the university wants to make some serious money, they start charging a so-called "sobriety tax" when entering a class. Every time I go to RATT or Dewey's at lunch they're full of people drinking beer, and I wouldn't be surprised if at least a few of those people then stumbled off to class after a few pints of the

good stuff. I know I have more than once. Let's say then that any person with any amount of alcohol in their system has to pay a "toll" to get into the classroom. Nothing too ridiculous though — the university would actually want people to pay this. \$5 a class would seem "fair."

Now this seems a bit pricey, but try and look at it from the university's perspective. They need the money, because I mean seriously, having a nicely furnished home paid for by the university is much more important to the administration than students actually being able to contact their professors. Plus, now you get to make a drunken nuisance of yourself in class, and nobody can stop you without a refund.

Ryan Stephens

The rising fees over the past few years have generally been put towards keeping our school afloat. But I've got something that'll let the university

raise morale and continue to swindle students.

Most of us would agree that a large proportion of our stress has to do with time — there being too little of it. Between writing papers, studying for exams and getting involved with extra-curricular activities, we all wish we could buy more time to fit everything in.

If the university really wants to dig itself out of its financial hole, they've got to take a good hard look at the saying "time is money" and realize that within those sacred words is the key to the end of their woes.

They simply have to give students the opportunity to buy that precious resource of time.

How? They could start by forcing professors to offer extensions to all of their students at a fee. The more you pay, the more your due-date is delayed. Need a little more time to study for that important final exam? Have it postponed, all for your pretty penny.

Of course, no penalty would be given for these extensions, thus having a latent function of raising GPAs throughout all faculties, eventually skyrocketing our school up the all-too-important university rankings.

Two birds, one stone. The university should hire me as a consultant — my fees are low.

Nick Ong

The average person exhales 1.04 kg of carbon a day. Multiplied by the approximately 40,000 students on campus, each day we're responsible for 41,600 kilograms of carbon emissions. As an environmentally-conscious U of A student, I find this uncontrolled emission of carbon dioxide unacceptable. The university can solve this by setting a cap-and-trade system on our personal carbon emissions. If implemented, students will have to pay a non-refundable fee for a standardized carbon dioxide sensor and a fixed number of carbon credits at the start of each term.

Based on how active they are, students with higher carbon emissions will be able to buy credits through Bear Tracks from students who have lower carbon emissions. The laws of economics then dictate that as long as the number of carbon permits is kept reasonably low, we will actively work towards lowering our personal carbon emissions.

After a few years of price hikes on said carbon permits, the majority of U of A students will turn green. Some may even turn blue, depending on how long they hold their breath; in my opinion, a small price to pay for a greener future. Let's get to it, people.



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THE GATEWAY PURITY TEST

The Gateway's Court of Appeals

summons you to appear in court and stand trial for your heinous misdeeds. Whether you've racked up triple-digit demerits or have a mad case of subpoenas envy, it's time to testify. Will you pass the bar, or will I find you in contempt...and in my bed.

The Honourable Mr. Justice Bell
Judge, Jury, and if need be, Sexecutioner

cc. Ms. Selena Philips-Boyle
Mug-shot photographer

SEX

Have you ever:
Kissed a member of the opposite sex? (1 pt)
The same sex? (1 pt)
In the mouth with tongue? (2 pts)
Somewhere other than the mouth? (2 pts)
Was it with two people at once? (3 pts)
Three? (5 pts)
Were they related? (10 pt)
To you? (fail)

Have you ever given or received
(double points for both):
Handjob? (1 pt)
Oral sex? (1 pt)
Anal sex? (2 pt)
Rim job? (2 pt)
Mind the stepchildren? (2 pt)
Fisting? (5 pt)

Ever had sex? (1 pt)
In a car? (1 pt)
On the LRT? (5 pts)
In a park? (5 pts)
On the witness stand? (10 pts)
In the remand centre? (20 pts)

On campus? (1 pt)
In the SUB quiet room? (2 pts)
In a HUB stairwell? (2 pts)
On The Gateway's new couches? (10 pts)
In Quad? (10 pts)
In Rutherford Library? (10 pt)
With Alexander Rutherford himself?
(-5 pts, see a doctor)
In Lister? (2 pts)
Was it with a Listerite? (2 pts)
Do you now have an STI? (-5 pts, there's a
cream for that)
In the law building? (5 pt)
Was UAPS watching? (10 pt)
Did they help out? (20 pt)



How many points do you have in the alphabet game? (1 pt for every letter)

Have you ever had sex in missionary? (1 pt)
Doggie-style? (1pt)
Cowgirl? (1pt)
Reverse cowgirl? (3 pts)
Le Soixante-Neuf? (5 pts)
The drill press? (10 pts)
The guilty defendant? (10 pts)
The judge's gavel? (5 pts)
The "don't drop the soap"? (10 pts)
The defence rests? (10 pts)

Have you ever cheated on your significant other? (1 pt)
How many people did you have on the go at once? (1 pt for every person)
Has anyone every cheated on their significant other with you? (5 pts)
Have you ever been cheated on? (5 pts)

Have you contracted crabs? (1 pt)
Genital Warts? (1 pt)
Herpes? (1 pt)
Chlamydia? (1 pt)
Gonorrhea? (1 pt)
Blue waffle? (10 pts)
Syphilis? (10 pts)
Norovirus? (30 pts)
A baby? (30 pts)

You masturbate. (1 pt)
What's the most you've masturbated in a day? (1 pt per time)
Ever done it with someone else in the room? (2 pts)
Have you ever masturbated to a picture in *The Gateway*? (10 pts)
Was it a fashion streeter? (5 pts)
Were their clothes from Gravity Pope? (10 pts)
Are you the Pope? (100 pts)
The Gravity Pope? (200 pts)

Have you ever bought a sex toy? (1 pt for every one you own)
Is one a gavel? (5 pts)
What about handcuffs? (5 pts)
Do you swear it's not yours, officer? (1 pt)
Do you own a fleshlight? (5 pts)

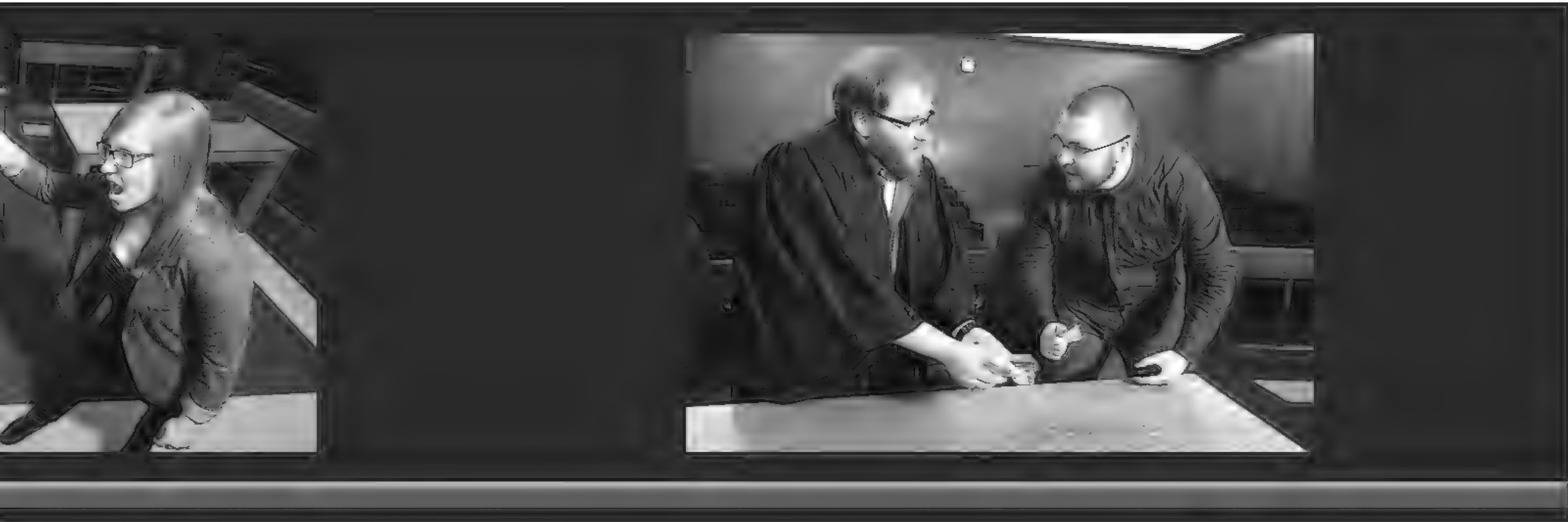
Does it plug into an iPad? (-5 pts)
Did you buy it because Kevin Smith told you to? (-1 pt)
Is it the Avatar variety? (-10 pts)
Do you own a dildo? (5 pts)
A dragon dildo? (-5 pts)
Does it actually fit? (10 pts)
Do you use it while playing Skyrim? (-100 pts)
Do you yell "FUS RO DAH" when you climax? (take an arrow to the knee)
How does it feel to be forever alone? (0 pts)

Have you ever had a one-night stand? (5 pts)
Did you hook up because of Three Lines Free? (20 pts)
Were you the CMPUT 114 couple? (100 pts and you're awesome)
Have you ever had a fuck buddy? (3 pts)
Did they turn into a partner? (5 pts)
Did you fuck like bunnies? (1 pt)
Are you a furry? (1 pt)
A brony? (-10 pts)

GLUTTONY

You've eaten McDonalds. (1 pt)
Was it after 2 am? (5 pts)
Was it a Filet-O-Fish? (5 pts)





Was it a McRib? (10 pts)
What's the most consecutive days you've eaten McDonalds? (1 pt per day)
Edo? (1 pt per day)
Subway? (1 pt per day)
Was it because you were living in SUB? (10 pts)
Ever visited every single Tim Hortons in CAB in one day? (5 pts)

Have you ever eaten prison food? (10 pts)
Was it worse than the food in SUB? (0 pts, but you have our sympathy)

Have you ever had food poisoning? (2 pts)
Was it from food you made yourself? (5 pts)
Have you given anyone else food poisoning? (5 pts)
Have you given anyone else Norovirus? (-10 pts, and stop spreading that shit around)

DRUGS

Have you ever smoked a cigarette? (1 pt)
A cigar? (2 pts)
Smoked a pipe? (2 pts)
Chewed tobacco? (2 pts)
Ever used cigarettes for currency? (5 pts)
Did you hide them up your ass? (10 pts)

Did you forget to use a plastic bag? (-5 pts, idiot)
Ever forget they were up there? (-10 pts)
Have you ever traded cigarettes for sex? (10 pts)
In jail? (50 pts)

Have you ever smoked pot? (2 pts)
Dropped acid? (2 pts)
'Shrooms? (2 pts)
MDMA? (2 pts)
Done coke? (5 pts)
Meth? (-10 pts)
Special K? (10 pts)
Heroin? (10 pts)
Have you ever made pot brownies? (5 pts)
Fed them to your parents? (2 pts)
On purpose? (5 pts)
Was it their recipe? (10 pts)
Ever smoked raisins? (1 pt per scoop)
Have you ever smoked oregano and got, like, so fucking high, brah? (That shit cray) (-10 pts)
Have you ever pretended to smoke a Popeye candy stick? (-50 pts and since when do they let 10-year-olds into university)

Have you ever gotten drunk? (1 pt)
So drunk you threw up? (3 pts)
Puked and rallied? (5 pts)
In a bar? (5 pts)
Were you kicked out? (10 pts)
Have you had more than 10 shots in one night? (1 pt for every shot over 10)
Were they all tequila? (1 pt)
The cheap kind? (5 pts for suffering through that)
Have you ever drank in class? (3 pts)
Drank at the Myer Horowitz SU election forum? (5 pts)
Drank at the president's annual student address? (5 pts)
With Indira? (100 pts)
Have you ever drank in court? (10 pts)
Did you make a drinking game based on your

trial? (15 pts)
Did you miss your court date because you were so drunk? (10 pts)

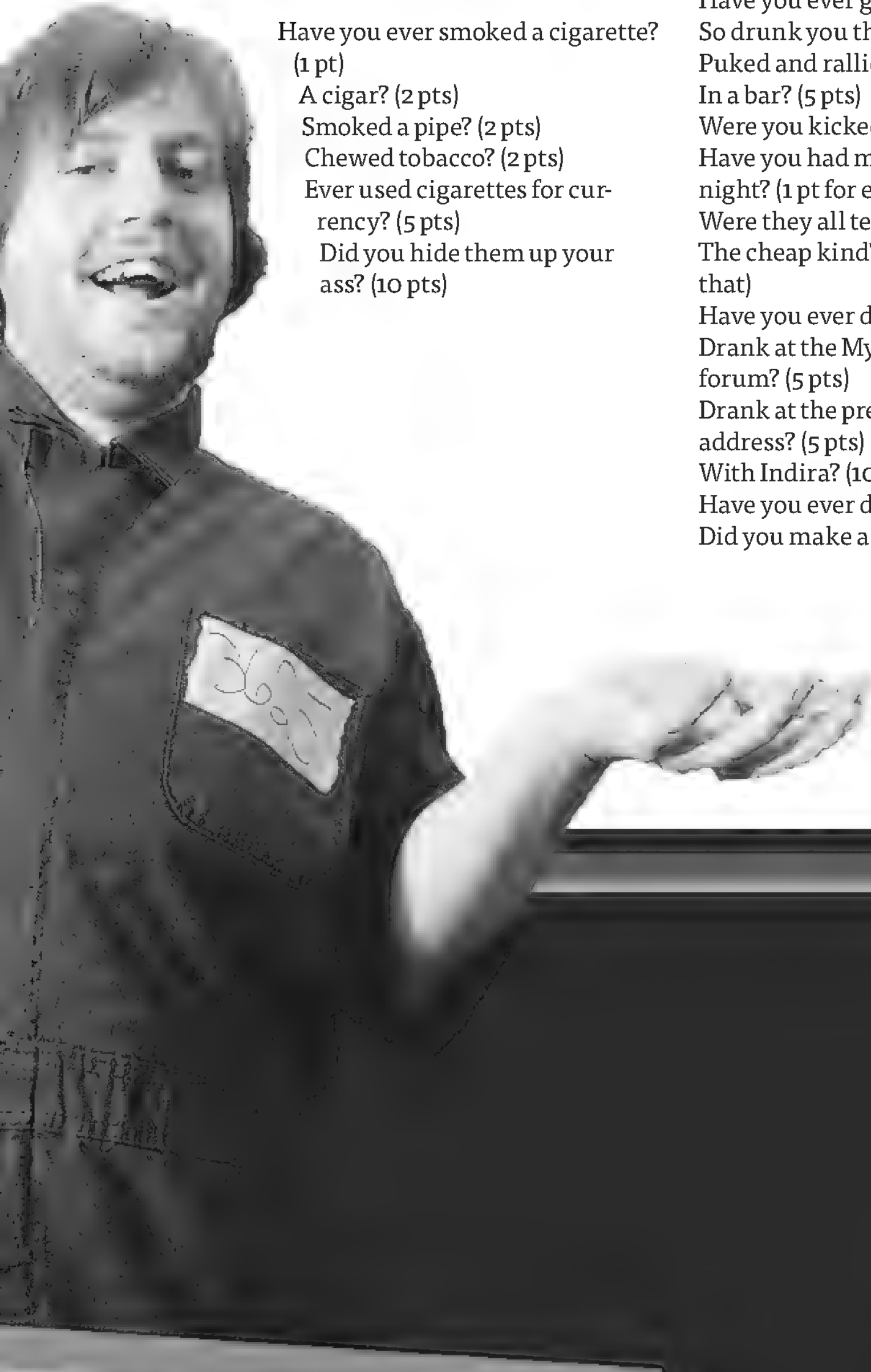
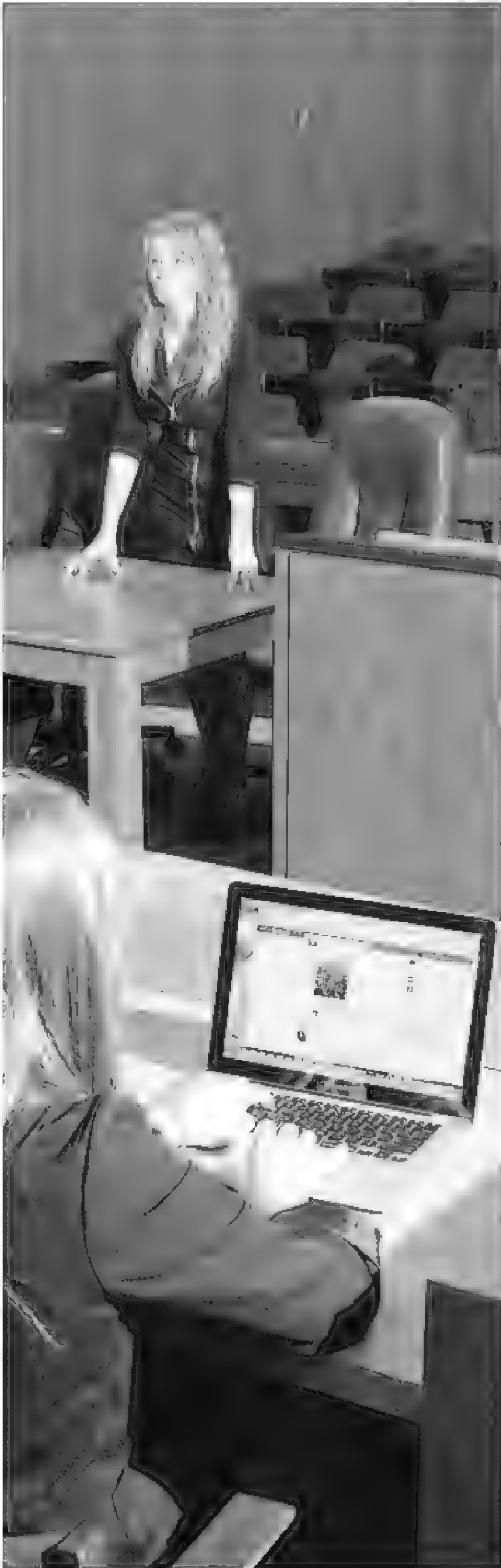
Have you ever played beer pong? (1 pt)
Beersbee? (5 pts)
Have you ever completed a Power Hour? (5 pts)
The Centurion? (10 pts)
With vodka? (20 pts for surviving, you idiot)
Did you need a liver transplant? (5 pts)
Have you ever played Sociables using court terms? (1 pt)
Was your objection overruled? (1 pt)
Have you turned *Law & Order* into a drinking game? (Objection, your honour. No one watches *Law & Order* anymore)
Have you ever chugged a beer? (2 pts)
Done a keg stand? (5 pts)
Puked on the keg? (-5 pts)
Been so drunk you blacked out? (5 pts)
Been so drunk you were still drunk the next morning? (5 pts)
Did you continue drinking? (5 pts)

VICES

Have you ever slept in (1 pt)
Past 4 p.m.? (5 pts)
Have you ever slept through all your classes? (5 pts)
Was it the first day of school? (1 pt/class)
Was it the final exam? (5 pts/exam)
Ever play video games rather than go to class? (2 pts)

Do you have a tattoo? (1 pt for each one)
Do you have piercings? (1 pt for each one)
Does your Skyrim character have any tattoos or piercings? (0 pts for each one, dork)
Have you taken an arrow to the knee? (-5 pts)

Have you ever cheated on a test? (-1 pt)
On an essay? (-1 pt)
On an open-book final? (-5 pt)
Have you ever lied? (1 pt)
On a Purity Test? (5 pts, we know you have)





CRIME

Have you ever shoplifted? (5 pts)
Have you ever embezzled \$27,000? (-27,000 pts)
From a student association? (10 pts)
That starts with a B? (10 pts)
Been accused of it 6 months later? (-5 pts)

Have you been caught speeding? (1 pt for every 10 km/h over)
Broken into Indira's office? (10 pts)
Occupied University Hall? (10 pts)
Partied with UAPS? (50 pts)

Have you ever been arrested? (10 pts)
Been thrown into the drunk tank? (5 pts)
Been to court? (5 pts)
Did you refuse to take the oath? (-5 pts)
Have you committed perjury? (5 pts)
Did you try to bribe the prosecution? (10 pts)
Bribe them with sex? (10 pts)
Did it work? (50 pts)

Have you ever carried a gun? (-1 pt, not cool)
A knife? (-5 pts, even less cool)
Have you ever tased a bro? (5 pts, supa cool)
Have you ever been kicked out of a bar? (3 pts)
Kicked out of a house party? (3 pts)
Was it your house? (-10 pts, how does that happen?)
Was it a DKE house party? (-5 pts)

BONUS ROUND

How many Purity Tests have you taken before this one (1 pt per test)
Was this one your favourite? (1 pt, it damn well better be)
Have you ever gotten a negative score on the Purity Test? (-100 pts)
Have you ever used a Purity Test as a guide to increase your score? (5 pts)
Did it work? (10 pts)

Are you doing this test in class? (1 pt)
Can everyone see you doing it? (2 pts)
Are you doing this test in a bar? (3 pts)
Are you Miles Edgeworth? (OBJECTION!)
Are you doing this test during sex? (5 pts)
Group sex? (10 pts)
Were you honest on every question? (-1 pts, we know you lie)

THE VERDICT IS IN!

Court Stenographer (0-75)

You are at the lowest end of the impurity scale. You're more interested in going to class and making sure you take notes than increasing your purity test score. You may have had some minor sexual encounters, but done mostly through a full-body condom. For the most part, you stay out of the trouble — drugs and crime are not your thing. You're not the type of be arrested or bought. You go about your business in the purest fashion and leave the crime and perjury to the rest of the courtroom. You may not have the most exciting job, but you don't need to worry about hung juries, passing down controversial rulings, or getting the death penalty.

Gateways in this category: Alex Eldridge, Ross Vincent

Lawyer on the take (76-150)

You're not the most corrupt one in the courtroom, but you've been around the law books. Working with criminals all day means you've seen it all, and done a little bit too. Who can blame you for needing a few drinks to unwind at the end of the day, or taking a bribe on a case you don't want to defend? But vice is not your living — you're just a hard-working lawyer trying to get by. But a few more experimental drugs and maybe a criminal charge will push you in the next category, so if you want to stay relatively pure, keep your unseemly dealings discrete.

Gateways in this category: Alex Migdal, Madeline Smith, Ryan Bromsgrove, April Hudson, Darcy Ropchan, Katelyn Hoffart, Jordan Ching, Katherine Speur, Sam Brooks

Hardened criminal (151-249)

You're no stranger to the courtroom or the slammer. You've been known to use weapons to get a job done, steal things that don't belong to you, and use your "bad" image to attract many sexual partners. But now that you're out, be careful that your activities don't land you back in the handcuffs. A few more sexual romps in unseemly places and more criminal activity would push you up into the next category.

Gateways in this category: Justin Bell, Matt Hirji, Simon Yackulic, Dan McKechnie, Ashleigh Brown

Crooked Judge (250+)

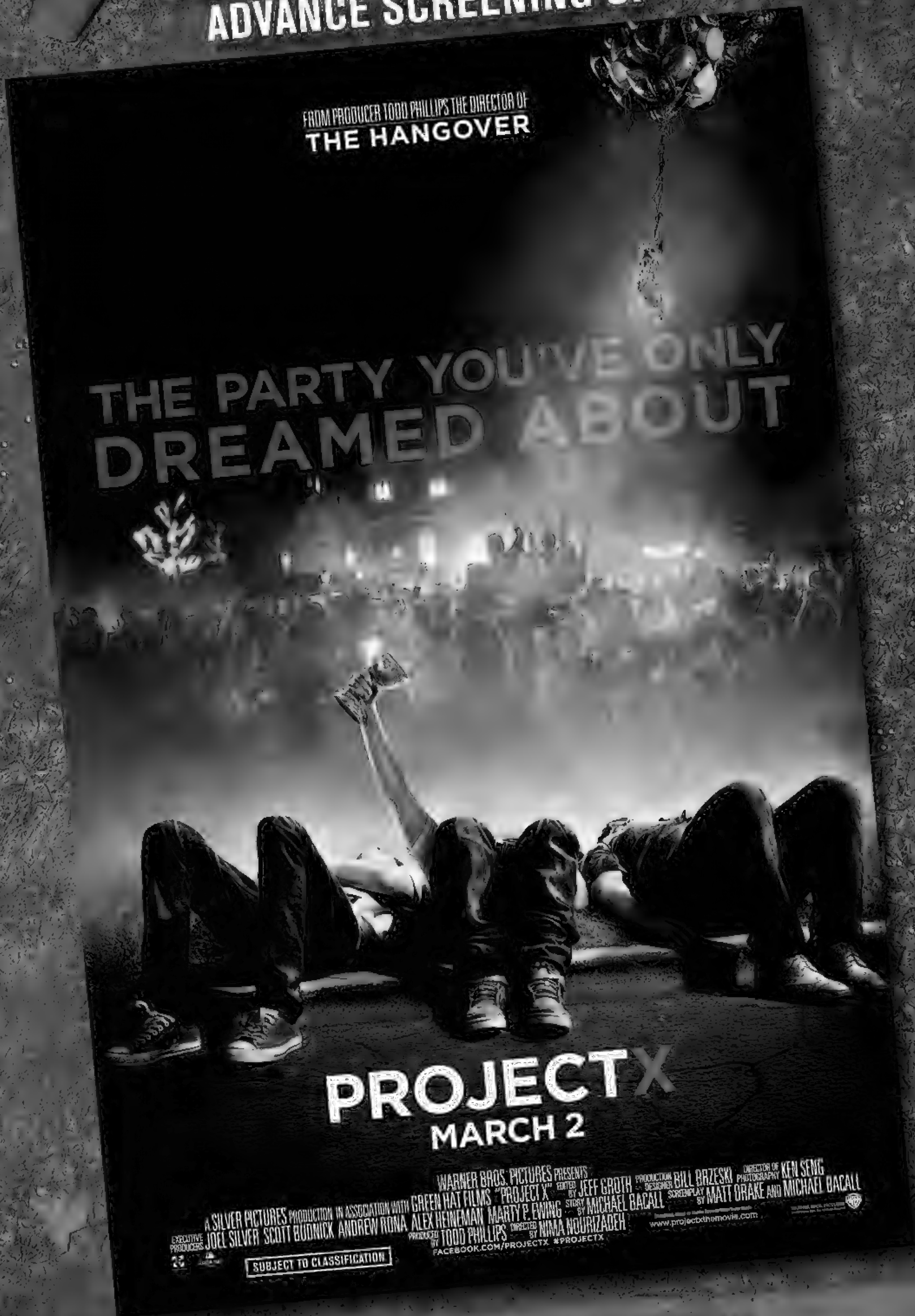
Congratulations! You are the top of the disgusting, impure world. You're both on the take and paying people off. You can be bought. Your scruples begin and end with the almighty dollar, or maybe sex is your price. Regardless, you'll hand out a judgment to the highest bidder. But while you hand out judgments against the criminals of the world, you yourself are participating in all manner of vice, from sexual encounters to drugs to gluttony. The straight lawyers fear to be in your courtroom, but the underbelly of criminals love your corruption. Just be careful you don't take things too far and end up in the orange coveralls and on the other side of the bench.

Gateways in this category: Vikram Seth



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social intercourse

COMPILED BY **Alana Willerton**
STEEL WHEELS HATER

The Vow

Written by Abby Kohn

Directed by Michael Sucsy

Starring Rachel McAdams, Channing Tatum and Sam Neill

Opens Friday, Feb. 10

The king and queen of romantic comedies have returned just in time to bring us the perfect date movie for Valentine's Day. *The Vow* is the story of newlywed couple Paige (Rachel McAdams) and Leo (Channing Tatum), whose lives are turned upside down when a car accident puts Paige in a coma. After waking up with severe memory loss, she no longer has any memory of Leo, and brings up conflicted feelings about her relationship with her parents and an ex-fiancé. Refusing to give up on his wife, Leo begins the fight of his life to woo his wife and make her fall in love with him all over again.

2012 WildFire Festival

Runs Tuesday, Feb. 14 at 7 p.m. –

Saturday, Mar. 3

Varscona Theatre (10329 83 Ave.)

Starting at \$5 at tixonthesquare.ca

Just when you thought you couldn't get enough of the hilarity and good times that accompany local improv shows, the 2012 WildFire Festival arrives to triple the fun. A marriage of three improvisation tournaments, this 16-day festival is a combination of The Canadian Improv Games, Rapid Fire Theatre's TheatreSports tournament The Nosebowl, and the WildFire Junior. Featuring students from all across Alberta competing with games and stories onstage, the festival will be a showcase of the best improv has to offer this year.

Faces of Labour

Presented by the Alberta Labour History Institute, the Provincial Archives of Alberta and the United Nurses of Alberta

Runs until Sunday, June 24

Royal Alberta Museum (12845 102 Ave.)

\$7 admission

A new show is coming to the Royal Alberta Museum to celebrate the stories of Alberta's working men and women from the last 100 years. The archival photo exhibit will be displayed in the Royal Alberta Museum's Orientation Gallery as a salute to the legacy of organized labour in Alberta. The exhibit features 20 portraits of Albertans working in jobs ranging from nurses to government file clerks to iron workers, giving us a glimpse of the people who built our province into what it is today.

Edmonton, I Love You

Featuring Jon Mick

Monday, Feb. 13 at 7 p.m.

Garneau Theatre (8712 109 St.)

\$10 admission

If you're not feeling the love for a special someone this Valentine's season, why not take a page from Edmonton comedian Jon Mick's book and try sending a little love Edmonton's way this year. In his living love letter to the city, *Edmonton, I Love You* intends to showcase what Mick loves most about Edmonton and the people who live here. The night will include performances and discussions with Edmonton's finest, including the talents of some of Mick's favorite local filmmakers, musicians and comedians.



SELENA PHILLIPS-BOYLE

Studio Theatre cast takes courage and creativity to the stage for *Cymbeline*

THEATRE PREVIEW

Cymbeline

WHEN ▶ Runs Thursday, Feb. 9 – Saturday, Feb. 18 at 7:30 p.m.

WHERE ▶ Timms Centre for the Arts (87 Avenue and 112 Street)

WRITTEN BY ▶ William Shakespeare

ADAPTED AND DIRECTED BY ▶ Kathleen Weiss

STARRING ▶ Alyson Dicey, Evan Hall and Brent Gill

HOW MUCH ▶ \$10 at the Timms Centre box office

Madeline Smith

ARTS & CULTURE EDITOR • @MEKSMITH

Cymbeline is a demanding drama, even by Shakespearean standards. An elaborate production with a labyrinthine plot and an even more complicated cast of characters, the enormous scope of the play is a serious undertaking for the BFA acting class of 2012.

The play revolves around the relationship between British princess Imogen (Alyson Dicey) and Posthumus (Evan Hall), childhood friends who fall in love and secretly marry. But when Imogen's father King Cymbeline (Brent Gill) learns about their union, Posthumus is immediately banished to Rome — as the sole heir to England's throne, Imogen is already promised to Cloten (Nikolai Witschl), the son of Cymbeline's new queen and a supposedly more suitable man of noble birth. Determined to stay together, Imogen and Posthumus both begin their own quests to reunite, despite a seemingly endless stream of obstacles.

Cymbeline is a difficult play to pin down amongst the rest of the Shakespeare canon, defying the expected tragedy/comedy labels that categorize most of his plays. Written towards the end of his life, it takes familiar pieces from other works — lovers separated by family disapproval, a conniving trickster villain and characters lead astray by jealousy and ambition — and builds an elaborate maze of lies and confusion. With a setting that defies

historical accuracy, jumping back and forth between Renaissance Italy and the medieval court of Britain, and elements of fantasy and magic woven into the story, it's far from a traditional Shakespeare production.

"I like to look at it as a fairytale," says Dicey, who plays Imogen. "That's why you don't question why all of a sudden we're in Italy 100 years later, or in an enchanted forest."

"It's an epic play — kind of like a 'best of' Shakespeare," adds Hall, in the role of Posthumus. "It doesn't have a set world. It's set in a non-specific past, basically."

"It's set in magic land," Dicey adds with a laugh.

While the play may seem like a fantastical fairytale, the heroine Imogen is no damsel waiting for her prince to rescue her. Considered one of Shakespeare's most compelling characters, she's determined to take her fate into her own hands. After defying her father in order to marry Posthumus, Imogen's search for her husband eventually leads her to disguise herself as a man and go to war with the Romans to get closer to him.

"Imogen represents honesty and virtue. She isn't a sweet princess or a weak, lame person. She's really tough, and she fights for honesty — she goes as far as dressing up as a man to fight for it. And in Shakespeare's time, that will destroy your reputation. Because you're going to war with a bunch of men sleeping in tents, sleeping with men, dressed up as a man."

"It's *Mulan* all over again," Hall adds, laughing with his castmate.

"Imogen is strong, but she has her faults too," Dicey continues. "She's not just a two-dimensional paper doll. She has to do bad things sometimes to get to her ultimate goal of finding the truth."

The actors' own search for truth within the play is just as complicated. Tasked with believably portraying a huge range of intense emotions, the cast constantly balances the intense level of drama with a sense of restraint.

"These are just such huge circumstances that are hard to relate to because they're life and death circumstances, which I don't encounter very often myself," Dicey says.

"It can be a challenge with Shakespeare, with how emotionally overwrought these characters become," Hall continues.

"Luckily, it's all in the words, really," Dicey replies. "And if you say the words the way they are written, it's powerful — you'll be surprised at what comes out of you emotionally. It's kind of crazy and magical."

In the midst of their hard work meeting the steep emotional and artistic demands of *Cymbeline*, the Studio Theatre cast and crew is also facing a difficult personal tragedy after the sudden death of classmate Tristan Mi, who was preparing to play the role of Cloten, three weeks ago. Despite the loss, the show is continuing as planned, with 2010 BFA grad Nikolai Witschl stepping in to play Cloten. And after some initial uncertainty about the production's future, the cast of *Cymbeline* doesn't have any doubts about moving forward with the show, which will be dedicated to Mi.

"In a way, for us — for me, anyway — the show had to go on no matter what," Hall explains. "And it's tough, because (Tristan) is one of 11 people that I spent more time with over the past three years than my entire family and my girlfriend, who I live with."

"It's difficult, but I think it had to go on. There are people who are waiting for it. It's good to do, too."

"It was important to do the show for Tristan," Dicey adds.

With the anticipated challenges of performing this incredibly complex Shakespearean epic combined with an unexpected and tragic loss, the cast of *Cymbeline* is resiliently continuing the show. And with graduation just around the corner for this year's BFA theatre class, the personal and professional lessons they take from this play only motivate them to work even more.

"The play has definitely been a challenge," Dicey acknowledges. "But all the hard work has paid off."

"And there's always more work to be done," Hall says. "It's made me work very hard and made me want to work harder ... I feel like there's so much to learn from this play, and Shakespeare give it to us to learn over time."

Albertine's portraits of the past reveal a life of regret

THEATRE PREVIEW

Albertine in Five Times

WHEN > Runs until Saturday, Feb. 18 at 8 p.m.

WHERE > Walterdale Playhouse (10322 83 Ave.)

WRITTEN BY > Michel Tremblay

DIRECTED BY > Mary Jane Kreisel

STARRING > Amelia Maciejewski-Duplessis, Michelle Vance Hehir, Mary-Ellen Prley, Syrell Wilson, Ruby Swekla and Janine Hodder

HOW MUCH > \$10.50 at tixonthesquare.ca

Alana Willerton

ARTS & CULTURE STAFF ■ @ALANAWILLERTON

We'd all like to think we live our lives with no regrets — that at the end of the day, we made the right decisions in our lives. But regret has a way of creeping into our thoughts, leaving a black stain on our memories until it becomes such an overpowering presence that it's all we can think about. This idea is central to the Walterdale Playhouse's latest production, *Albertine in Five Times*, examining the havoc regret can create in our lives.

The play focuses on 70-year-old Albertine (Ruby Swekla), nearing the end of her life and moving into a retirement home. In a moment of reminiscence, she finds herself thinking back over her life, reflecting on herself at age 30, 40, 50 and 60. Albertine's younger incarnations come to life as she goes back to talk to herself at these ages, re-examining the sources of the profound regret she now finds plaguing her.

Taking place over the course of four decades, *Albertine in Five Times* uses five different actors to portray Albertine through the different stages of her life. All five women remain on stage throughout the performance, and while clothing and hairstyles may change from version to version of Albertine, her regret and bitter attitude remain constant throughout. Mary-Ellen Perley, who plays Albertine at 50 years old, sees her character's anger as her defining characteristic.

"I think (her rage) rules her, and that's why she's constantly struggling with it," Perley says. "There are many times in the play where all the Albertines talk about their rage and say, 'If only I didn't have this rage,' or how the rage gets in the way of them being able to cope with life."



JULIANNA DAMER

While Albertine's family plays a role in her attitude, there's also the time period to consider. Set in 20th-century Quebec, Director Mary Jane Kreisel points to the lack of support for women during the 1940s and 1950s, arguing that situation and circumstance play a role in Albertine's current unhappiness as much as anything else.

"Rage comes from situations. It also comes from personalities and from places I think we all have (within us)," Kreisel says. "(Albertine's) situation causes the rage; her personality causes the rage; the generational gap between her mother, herself and her daughter causes it; and then the situation that her daughter ends up getting into later on causes it."

"It's odd how change, luck and situations, or even social and cultural situations as in this case, put you

in certain circumstances."

Because the source of Albertine's wrath and regret can't be attributed to a single event, it seems impossible that Albertine could ever recover from the hits her life has taken over the years. And while the memories of Albertine's past will remain with her for the rest of her life, Kreisel believes the true message of the play rests on Albertine's ability — or inability — to reconcile with her past decisions and choices at the end of her life.

"It is a memory play, but it's also a play that looks at choices and self-determination in people's lives," Kreisel says. "And in the end, when one is sitting in one's retirement home or one's house, sitting and thinking back, will we be thinking that our choices were good ones? And if they weren't, can we accept and reconcile those choices?"

Myspace queens and Nexopia goddesses, for blingee.com offers everything you need to add that "little bit extra" to otherwise boring profile pictures.

The basic idea is simple and you've seen it before: upload an image from your computer, Facebook or Photobucket and add clipart and text. Boring, right? Blingee thinks so, and will throw glitter in the eyes of anyone who disagrees.

Blingee takes things one step further by providing an assortment of flashing GIF "stamps", backgrounds and pens for your creative disposal. Even the dullest of vanity shots can be transformed into seizure-inducing masterpieces, and life will never be the same.

The library of "stamps" is diverse, with everything from flashing lips to sparkling Shih Tzu

puppies in Santa hats. If typography is more your style, try the "100% crazy" and "sexii and I know it" text stamps to get your message across. Don't forget to add some eyelash stamps for the perfect girly touch — just in case the anime kitten blowing glitter kisses in the corner of your picture raised any questions about your femininity. Finish your picture off with a shimmering pink border and your fellow social networkers will be green with envy.

The world of Blingee cannot be captured within the black and white realms of a newspaper article. To fully embrace its mystique, you have to visit the website for yourself — you will not be disappointed. That is, of course, unless you have an aversion to all things sexii and glamtastic.

fashion streeters

COMPILED AND PHOTOGRAPHED BY **Julianne Damer**



GATEWAY: > Describe what you're wearing.

HANNAH: > I'm wearing a vintage dress that I found at Goodwill. It's very 1940s looking, which I love about it, and it has a fun pattern. I'm wearing second-hand Repettos that I found in a thrift shop in Kelowna — that made me incredibly happy. Everything I'm wearing head to toe is second-hand, which is how I tend to shop all the time. It's sustainable and economical, and you find beautiful unusual things. I love it.

GATEWAY: > What's your favourite thing you have on?

HANNAH: > The beret, because it's versatile. I told my roommate this morning that I thought I looked so Parisian, and said, "Au revoir!"



Check out thegatewayonline.ca/fashionstreeters for more photos.

site unseen

COMPILED BY **Kate Black**

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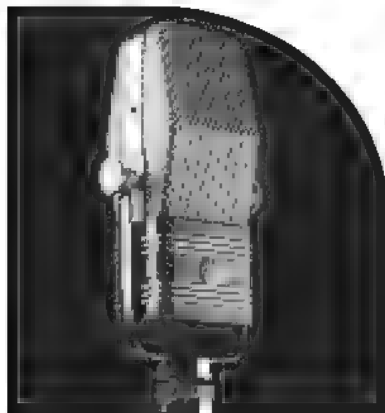


PHOTO ILLUSTRATION: MADELINE SMITH

Are plain mirror pictures getting you down? Are your duck lips not getting you the kind of attention that they used to? Fret not, fellow



Dazzling your Valentine's date with the fine art of film



Arts & Culture
Staff
GROUP COMMENTARY

If you can't make a relationship last beyond a first date, it's probably time to re-evaluate your taste in cinema. While the classic dinner-and-a-movie outing seems like a foolproof segue into a second date, choosing the wrong film is a recipe for romantic disaster. Luckily for you, *The Gateway* is here to steer you away from poor taste. Otherwise, kiss your hopes of ever getting laid goodbye.

Kate Black

So you're having a movie date. Let's get one thing out of the way: unless you're a chivalric gentleman/gentlelady of the utmost character and morals, you aren't looking for a gentle film to cuddle up with your person of interest. You're probably looking for some background noise for your sexy, sexy rumpus. That being said, *Inception* should be your go-to movie for this Valentine's Day season.

Once you're down to business, the soundtrack is sure to make any task you're doing seem at least eight times more badass. If you close your eyes, you might as well be hooking up in an Aston Martin under the Lincoln Tunnel instead of your parents' couch.

But let's say you actually pay attention to the movie. First off, congratulations. You are one classy son of a bitch. Second, this will give you a great gateway into post-movie conversation, because the ending of *Inception* provides material for a literally irresolvable debate. Once you tire of discussing totems, sleep and Leo DiCaprio's wandering hairline, slip your date one of the foolproof pickup lines teeming from *Inception's* plotline. My personal favourite: "You must be tired, because you were running through my dreams, within a dream, within

a dream all night."

Peggy Jankovic

I'm not a huge fan of romantic movies, even rom-coms, as date movies. Are you supposed to sit there awkwardly when the characters kiss? It's so weird. Instead, as a date movie, I'd much prefer something that really gauges our compatibility, and the perfect choice for this is *The Wicker Man*, starring the forever wonderful Nicolas Cage. See, this may be one of the most objectively terrible movies out there, but it's brilliant in its absurdity. If your date doesn't see the inherent hilarity in the overacting (See: Cage in a bear suit punching a villager or the infamous "HOW'D IT GET BURNED?"), then maybe it's just not going to work out. But if they do, then you've got a whole Nic Cage filmography ahead of you and some guaranteed good times.

Of course, it might turn out that I'm totally wrong about all this and the both of you just find this Nic Cage flick to be a total nightmare. In that case, ignore my advice and just make out the whole time or something.

Silken Conradi

Don't let the suggestive title lure you into thinking that *Blue Valentine* is going to score you any

smooching on a romantic cinema night with that special someone.

Nobody, I repeat *nobody*, wants to spend a date sitting through two hours of leading man Ryan Gosling losing his "je ne sais quoi" to chain smoking and a receding hairline. The film's occasional flashbacks to the young puppy love between Gosling and co-star Michelle Williams just isn't enough to keep your heart rate up and your sweetie snuggled close.

Blue Valentine bluntly serves up a big, steaming plate of failed love with just enough depressed resentment on the side to inspire an immediate break-up, or at the very least, leave you in a state of helpless waterworks for the next 12 hours.

Save this one for the admirers you'd rather get rid of. It's going to take several pounds of chocolate and at least a half a dozen Woody Allan films to recover from this number.

Richard LaRose

While it appears to be a harmless and funny love story, look closely and *The Princess Bride* reveals a hidden message more sinister than its title suggests. Think about the ending, for example: Inigo has been stabbed in the guts, Andre the Giant is not going very far on one of those frilly white horses and their enemy, Prince Humperdink, the greatest tracker in the world, has been left tied to a chair by a mere princess.

And consider the dialogue: the Miracle Max hears Wesley say "to bluff" while Inigo hears "true love," along with the many great quotes and action scenes that contrast "love" with lies and deception, like when Humperdink tells Buttercup he is sending a message to Wesley (lie) or when a semi-paralyzed Wesley bluffs Humperdink into submission by threatening to cut up his face (lie).

In fact, the "You killed my father — prepare to die" line is pretty much the only piece of dialogue in the entire movie that's not bullshit. So why is this such a great date movie? Because there's no better way to soften up your date with a witty, seemingly romantic film while subliminally preparing him/her for the fact that love is a lie and all things end in disaster.

Ravanne Lawday

If you take me on a date to a chick flick on Friday night, I'm likely to forget who you are by Saturday afternoon. The dinner-and-a-movie romantic comedy date is so overdone, and honestly, you're not impressing anyone with your attempt to look "sensitive."

Instead, why not take your lucky date to a movie with lots of flashing lights, CGI and adventure? *Prometheus* — a spin-off of the *Alien* movies — is set for release later in 2012. Who doesn't want to see androids and astronauts explore planets, encounter aliens and fight for their lives?

Plus, if you're a nerd, taking your date to a movie only a science fiction lover could understand might tell you a lot about the person. If they hate the movie while you're obsessed with extraterrestrial flicks, it's probably a good sign to kick them to the curb.

And let's not forget a movie featuring giant aliens trying to sneak around and kill people is liable to contain scenes that'll make you jump straight out of your seat. It's a classic excuse to cuddle your date and hold hands in the popcorn bucket — unless I've been taking too many notes from my experience with cheesy date movies.





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Art united through civil rights

ART PREVIEW

5 Artists, 1 Love

WHEN > Runs until Saturday, March 3

WHERE > Art Gallery of Alberta
(2 Sir Winston Churchill Square)

CREATED BY > Various artists

CURATED BY > Darren Jordan

HOW MUCH > \$8 gallery admission

Alex Migdal

NEWS EDITOR • @ALEXEM

Standing on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial, Martin Luther King delivered a simple but resounding message to a sea of 200,000 civil rights supporters: I have a dream.

Nearly 50 years later, that dream of racial equity and acceptance is alive and well for Edmonton artist and curator Darren Jordan, who's commemorating this year's Black History Month with the exhibit 5 Artists, 1 Love. This is the fifth year in a row he's curated the multi-artist exhibit.

Just like the growth of the civil rights movement, Jordan's exhibit has evolved remarkably over the past five years. Housed for the last four years at the now-closed Tu Gallery, Jordan is bringing his message to a larger venue — the Art Gallery of Alberta, which launched the exhibit with a festive event last Saturday that featured live music and spoken-word poetry.

It's not just the venue that's expanded either. Thirteen artists are taking part as opposed to the usual five, a move that signals the exhibit's retrospective role this year. The artists come from all walks of life, but are unified through their home base of Edmonton. As such, Jordan's aim is to showcase the "cultural mosaic" present within the city's black community.

"I'm trying to show the public at large that the black community is extremely diverse. It's not just one community," Jordan says. "People say black community, but then you have an individual that grew up in Jamaica or Rwanda or Trinidad or England. Although there's some common ground in the colour of their skin,



their experiences are very unique and very different."

Those unique experiences are reflected through the art on display. Among those showcased are local hip-hop artist Khiry Crooks, who employs a type of black and white realism that he calls "Black Art," as well as Zimbabwe-native Shumba Ash, whose sculpted 3D objects are made from recycled materials transformed into art.

But the most integral feature of the exhibit is The Wall, which displays 12 by 12 inch pieces that tie in with this year's theme of the civil rights movement. The Wall features submissions not just from the 13 artists, but from the public as well, a move that Jordan says has incited an overwhelming response and makes for an interesting part of the show.

"The civil rights movement — what does that mean to you?" Jordan asks. "When I put it out there, I said I wasn't specifically looking for a history lesson. I wanted you to give me your emotional response to what you think of when you hear that term."

Through the unification of diverse backgrounds and artistic styles within the black community, Jordan sees

the exhibit as playing an important role in the city's Black History Month festivities.

"There are other organizations in Edmonton that represent different aspects of the black community and they do their own thing," Jordan says. "Unfortunately, historically our organizations can sometimes be fragmented. The opportunities to work together aren't always taken. Something like this should have happened a long time ago, in my opinion."

The public seems to agree, as attendance at his exhibit has experienced a considerable spike in the last few years. Today, Jordan is thrilled to see his exhibit hosted by the AGA, which he hopes will attract a more diverse crowd to the gallery.

"That was part of my pitch to the AGA: you're going to reach a demographic that possibly doesn't make it to gallery very often. And now they'll be coming here and it's a lot more accessible," Jordan notes.

And despite the bigger venue and larger number of featured artists, the exhibit's central message ultimately remains the same.

"The one love obviously is the art," Jordan says. "Unity through art."

Confusion the only Grammy guarantee



Katherine Speur
A&C COMMENTARY

Grammy season is upon us — yes, it's already been a year since Lady Gaga arrived at the awards incubating in an egg. With 78 categories and hundreds of nominees, the 54th annual Grammy awards are bound to produce shocking results once again. Music's biggest night has always been interesting, but what will this year bring? Everyone is anticipating all the dreadful outfits the stars will wear — and, oh yeah, who's going to take the awards home.

The Grammys aren't always easy to predict, with bizarre choices for winners that often seem to come out of nowhere. Last year was no exception. Take for example Esperanza Spalding, a jazz singer who won the award for Best New Artist. Mass confusion reigned as the average Top 40 listener tried to cope with an "unknown" robbing Justin Bieber of his

rightful crown. Things didn't get any better when Arcade Fire won Album of the Year over Eminem and Lady Gaga.

This year, everyone is expecting musical powerhouse Adele to win every award, but of course we can't rule out a sudden Grammy surprise. It's possible the Album of the Year award could be randomly handed to the Foo Fighters instead. But for now, Adele's 21 looks like a safe bet in this category.

Mumford & Sons, competing with Adele for Record of the Year, have the potential to rise to a come-from-behind win with their song "The Cave." While they have a little more mainstream cred, they might just pull off another Arcade Fire-style upset.

Best New Artist is always a difficult category to pin down (see previous anecdote about Esperanza Spalding). This year, the ever-baffling nominees include Skrillex and Bon Iver, once again demonstrating The Grammy judges' nonsensical definition of "new." The category is likely to be awarded to one of those two, but don't give up hope on Nicki Minaj and her addictive

rap just yet.

Rounding out this year's list of nonsensical nominations is Sum 41, for whatever reason nominated for Best Hard Rock/Metal Performance. Don't put it past the Grammys to hand this award to your elementary school rock band guilty pleasure over Mastodon and Megadeth.

I'll be rooting for Duck Sauce's "Barbra Streisand" for Best Dance Recording, "Lotus Flower" by Radiohead for Best Rock Performance and Kanye and Jay-Z's "Otis" for Best Rap Performance. But knowing the Grammys, Coldplay will probably end up sweeping every category — even Best Rap Performance. Stranger things have happened.

The Grammys are at least predictable in how unpredictable they are. Expect outrageous performances from some of music's biggest stars and Lady Gaga in yet another controversial costume. But aside from that, don't make any bets on how the night might unfold. No matter how much of an expert you think you are, the confusion music's most glamorous night inspires is not to be outdone.

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A painful image of perfection

The Ecstasies takes the discussion of body image to an unnerving extreme

THEATRE PREVIEW

The Ecstasies

WHEN Runs Friday, Feb. 10
Saturday, Feb. 18 at 8 p.m.,
matinée performances Feb.
11, 12 and 18 at 2 p.m.

WHERE TransAlta Arts Barns
(10330 84 Ave.)

WRITTEN BY Erika Hennebury and
Ruth Madoc-Jones

DIRECTED BY Trevor Schmidt

STARRING Gianna Vacirca and
Elinor Holt

HOW MUCH \$20 at tixonthesquare.ca

Paige Gorsak

ARTS & CULTURE STAFF @PAIGEGORSACK

From anorexia to immaculate conception, and lullabies for death to orgasms on stage, *The Ecstasies* promises big laughs despite controversial subject matter. The play tackles religion and body image in a production with extreme characters in unbelievable situations.

The play tells the story of Sister Marguerite (Gianna Vacirca) and Sister Abigail (Elinor Holt), two nuns struggling to make sense of an apparent freak accident while chasing a warped idea of pious perfection. The play opens as the two sisters cope with the bizarre overnight disappearance of the 128 other nuns in their convent.

While Marguerite has become a nun with the simple aim of learning how to be a good person, things go sideways when she wakes up to the empty convent. Abigail, now her only companion, isn't worried about morals, instead obsessing over making herself into "a perfect bride of Christ."

The pious paragon of a nun isn't present in *The Ecstasies* — rather than pursuing a devotion to God and religion, the nuns obsess over becoming angels: a complicated, twisted process in itself.

"To be angel, you have to transcend

your body, which essentially means you have to die, and die through starvation," Vacirca explains. "You want to be the thinnest you can be to go up there ... (The play) turns the idea of religion on its head and shakes the main formation up, and it really brings into question the traditional way of being pious and being holy and righteous."

With its story revolving around two bulimic, anorexic, body-obsessed women, *The Ecstasies* also makes a statement about self-image and the dangerous struggle for perfection.

"The extremes we go to and the disregard for social conformity is for sure a clown show: we barf, we fart and Sister Abigail is constantly having orgasms and then falling asleep. The breadth of impulses that these nuns allow themselves to follow is very clown."

GIANNA VACIRCA
ACTOR, *THE ECSTASIES*

"The expectation for perfection is impossible, and trying to achieve it will drive you insane," Vacirca says. "Especially for women in this day and age — we are flooded with images and the expectation for a certain kind of body, sexuality and even self-expression. We sometimes trick ourselves into thinking that that is the only way to be sexy and be beautiful, and these women are dying for that."

Despite the play's dark material, *The Ecstasies* isn't meant to be a tragedy. Instead, it aims to put difficult concepts into an imaginary world where you can't help but laugh at them. Amidst the taboo discussions of religion and self-harm, Vacirca

says the play is meant to make audiences smile with action based on clowning, a technique that requires the actors to explore the limits of their inhibitions onstage.

"There's lots of text and lots of speech — the show is not traditional clown in that way," Vacirca says. "But the extremes we go to and the disregard for social conformity is for sure a clown show: we barf, we fart, and Sister Abigail is constantly having orgasms and then falling asleep. So the breadth of impulses that these nuns allow themselves to follow is very clown."

"The women are in such an extreme circumstance," she continues. "Imagine being the last two nuns standing after a huge horrific accident and believing that the only way you can continue to exist is to wait to die. No human being can say they have been in that situation. So we immediately go into an imaginary world."

The imaginary world of *The Ecstasies* is what Vacirca calls a "limbo-purgatory" where Sister's Abigail and Marguerite hilariously attempt to achieve their own bizarre idea of perfection.

"Everything we try to do as nuns slowly perverts," Vacirca laughs. "We try to walk as angels and it becomes supermodels on the catwalk. We try to laugh as angels and it immediately becomes sex kitten giggles."

With an unusual technique to breaching shocking subject matter, *The Ecstasies* is bound to stir up controversy. But Vacirca hopes the play's sense of humour will provide a vehicle for better understanding its darker themes.

"There are going to be people who get different things from it — especially in a situation like this, when you're taking a big risk by starting a conversation about religion, and following through it blindly," she says.

"I think that you're more likely to get people to think about something seriously, if you make it light, if you give permission for people to laugh at it."



New *Final Fantasy* lost in its own convoluted storyline

GAME REVIEW

Final Fantasy XIII-2

PUBLISHER ▶ Square Enix
DEVELOPER ▶ Square Enix
PLATFORM ▶ PS3 and Xbox 360

Ryan Bromsgrove
OPINION EDITOR • @RYAWESOME

Want a sequel that explores what happened to the people of *Final Fantasy XIII* after their home fell out of the sky at the end of the game? Well, too bad. We're going time-travelling instead. While the game seems to have solved some of the problems of its predecessor, *Final Fantasy XIII-2* gets wrapped up in endless convolution, making it short, shallow and ridiculous.

Imagine you pour a 1,000-piece jigsaw puzzle you bought from a yard sale onto the table. There are all these pretty, flashy pieces that don't seem to make any sense, and you have no idea where to begin. Then you find out there are a bunch of pieces missing, and the ones you have don't connect properly. That's how it feels to decipher *Final Fantasy XIII-2*'s plot.

You control Serah, who — with new character from the future, Noel — must find her sister Lightning, who's trapped in some world outside of time. So you start jumping around to different areas in time and space only to discover that the crystal pillar holding the fallen world of Cocoon above the larger, lower world of Gran Pulse has broken. You try to stop that for a little while, but then just sort of give up when returning character Hope hatches some crazy plan to make a brand new, artificial Cocoon instead. This is the sort of confusing, nonsensical mess the game devolves into.

Working against you is the absolute pinnacle of dumbass character design, Caius. Sporting asymmetrical

purple-hair stuffed full of feathers and wielding a weapon laughably impractical even by *Final Fantasy* standards, this guy wants to destroy all of history to protect one reincarnating person from having to die young repeatedly. I don't even care.

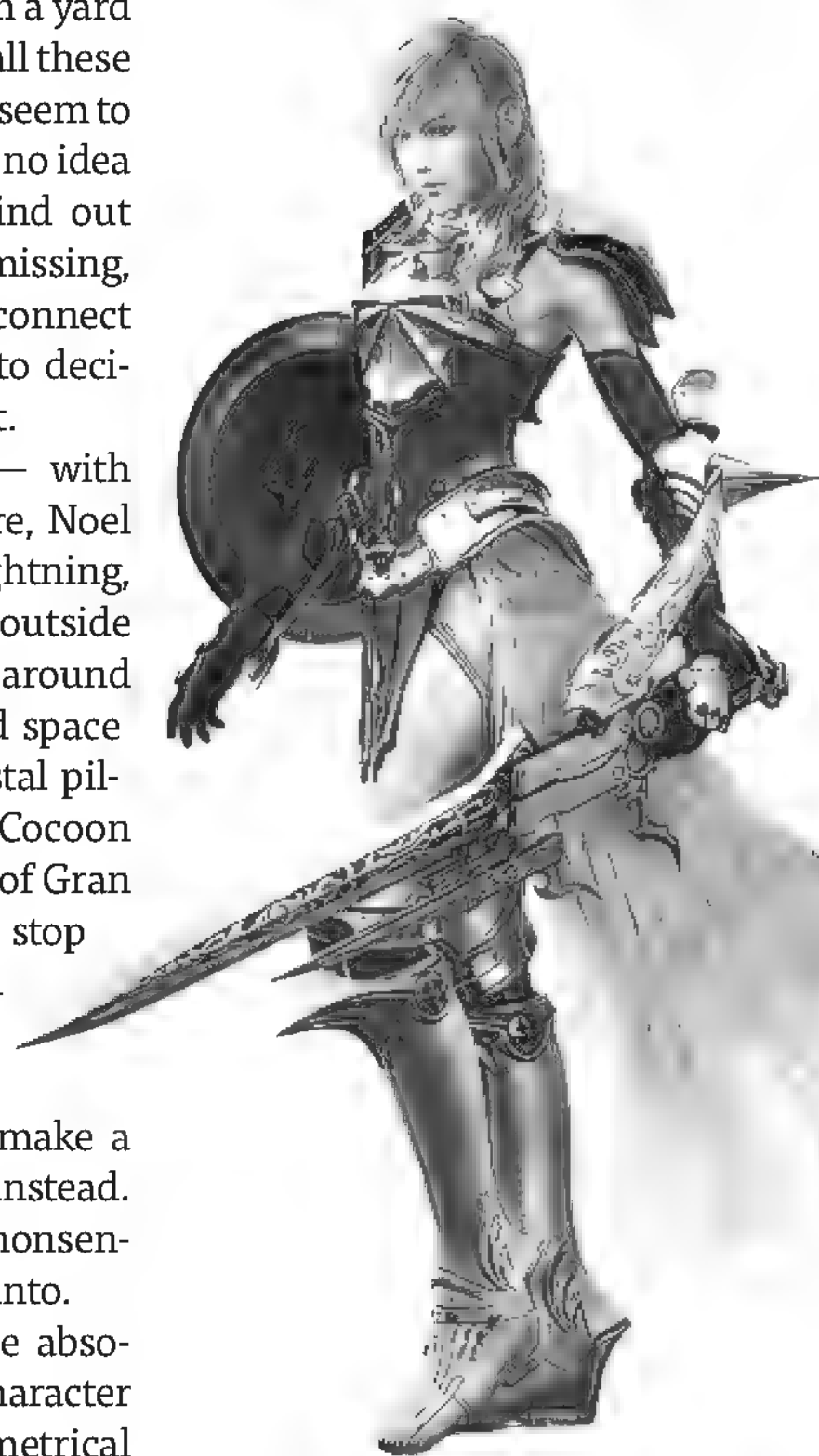
Absurd premise aside, you'd think in a time travel game you'd do things in the past and see the future change. But that would be too easy. In this game, there's far more emphasis on changing the future to create new pasts — which is as convoluted as you'd expect. Some changes stem from the actions of Serah and Noel, but too often, fixing broken time periods involves "solving paradoxes." And no, they didn't bother to make these paradoxes based on smart plot inconsistencies that you have to unravel and fix. They're just called "paradoxes," and your task usually boils down to solving the same three puzzles over and over or fighting some

monster displaced in time just because. Instead of using time-travel as an interesting plot device, it's a naked excuse to get the player to do stuff.

The game even fails when it comes to the actual storytelling, opting over and over to ignore the "show, don't tell" maxim in favour of lifeless voice-over summaries of the conversations you should be watching. The story is complication upon complication, and the game's creators didn't even bother to animate many of the scenes. And when they did, half the time you're distracted from the very serious babble of "timeline this" and "change the past that" by the incessant noise from your Moogles companion — as if he's yelling, "Hey, pay attention to me, I'm the cute mascot character!"

So the plot is totally balls, but if you're hoping the gameplay will make up for it, you're about to be disappointed. While the ability to revisit previously-explored areas and interact with non-playable characters are big steps forward, let's not forget the decision to axe these features from the previous game was a gigantic leap backward. The game seems to introduce an actual merchant again, replacing the faceless digital stores of the last one. But rather than add some personality to the various locations and times available by creating shops that sell location and time-specific items, the game instead opts for a single merchant who inexplicably travels through time, despite one scene insisting that only Serah and Noel can do that. Oh, and she's annoying as hell too.

There's nothing in the gameplay that should win back those disappointed with the restrictions of the previous game. Meanwhile, the plot is absurd if you know what you're getting into, and impenetrable if you're a first-time player. Whether a *Final Fantasy* veteran or a total newcomer, there's nothing in this game worthy of your time.



"Girls you know you'd better watch out,
Some guys, some guys are only about
That thing, that thing,
that thing,
That thing, that thing,
that thing."

-LAURYN HILL, "DOO WOP (THAT THING)" (1998)

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Harlan Pepper growing up with flourishing folk roots

MUSIC PREVIEW

Harlan Pepper

WHEN ▶ Saturday, Feb. 11 at 4 p.m.

WHERE ▶ Empress Ale House
(9912 82 Ave.)

HOW MUCH ▶ Free

Kate Black

ARTS & CULTURE STAFF ■ @BLAHBLAHBLACK

At only 19, the members of Harlan Pepper exude a vintage sound far beyond their years. After making it into the spotlight with acoustic folk and country influences from their home roots, the group is growing up and taking things into their own hands.

Forming while still in high school in Hamilton, Harlan Pepper released their first studio album, *Young and Old*, in 2010. They've been touring the album for the past year with the likes of Born Ruffians and the Arkells, and at the beginning of February, they began their Western Canadian tour opening for Blackie and The Rodeo Kings.

Despite their success and maturity, not everything has changed for the band of teens: while drummer Marlon Nicolle discusses the group's past and future over the phone, his

bandmates are busy cleaning their house, preparing for an inspection from their landlord.

"Me and Dan (Edmonds), the lead singer, we've been friends and have gone to school together since we were little kids," Nicolle says, pointing out that although Harlan Pepper is often called a "new" band, their history is more extensive than people think. "We started like a punk band when we were in Grade 5 or something and we were just fooling around."

Nicolle explains that Harlan Pepper has been deeply rooted in family influence from the start. After band members Jimmy Hayes and Thompson Wilson — whose father is Canadian music legend Tom Wilson — joined their group in Grade 9, their sound drifted away from their "punk" days in elementary school.

"My dad would lead our practices and stuff and try to make us play old songs like John Fogerty and Bob Dylan," Nicolle says. "We weren't having that too much because we were just young, naïve kids, and didn't like to play that music. Like, 'Why can't we play pop songs?' But eventually, we just grew to love it, and we just kept playing it, and that's the music we love today."

Without being artificial, Dan Edmond's haunting vocals, smooth

pedal steel and harmonica are reminiscent of the '60s and '70s folk tunes of their parents' times, blended with a clap-along beat that injects the album with an air of live energy. Nicolle says this interwoven sound of *Young and Old* is true to its name, attracting a diverse crowd to Harlan Pepper shows.

"We seem to be taken in by all the old folks who like to hear Dan on banjo and we have that old kind of feel. I think we have the appeal to the younger crowd, because we ourselves are only 19 years old," Nicolle says. "Once they see us and they hear that kind of old music we play, it almost opens the doors to them."

The band is currently writing their second album with a heavier, more electric sound geared towards their younger audience. And although it was first overwhelming to balance the life of young adulthood with the management of their band, Nicolle feels they have settled into their element, and are ready to take things further.

"I think it's refreshing to hear how many people are interested in us. We do get a lot of people like, 'Oh my god these kids, how do they do this?'" he says with a laugh.

"It's a bit nerve-wracking to be under pressure and stuff, but I think we handle it pretty well."

ALBUM REVIEW



Tramp Sharon Van Etten

Jagjaguwar Records
sharonvanetten.com

Justin Andrade

ARTS & CULTURE WRITER

Sharon Van Etten may "want to be over you," as she sings in the first track on her new album *Tramp*, but you certainly won't be over her after hearing this recording. Her third album, and second major release, *Tramp* is a disc that highlights Van Etten's powerful and emotive vocals.

Collaborating with artists such as

Aaron Dessner (The National), Zach Condon (Beirut) and Matt Barrick (The Walkmen), just to name a few, *Tramp* is at times a move away from the blues and folk sounds that characterized her earlier work. While the stylistic expansion is a welcome change, it can seem overdone, and a song like "Serpents," while not out

of place, feels somewhat derivative. *Tramp* also has a strange but wonderful bipolar quality to the songs that make up for the occasional flaw, ranging from the crushing "Give Out" to the almost upbeat "We Are Fine."

An album filled with songs about longing, loneliness and unhappy relationships, *Tramp* highlights the best of Van Etten's passionate vocals. Van Etten's voice has an almost ethereal quality that truly stands out when juxtaposed with the warm sound of her acoustic guitar.

Though at times it may feel more like a soundtrack to a suicide, *Tramp* is an emotional and impassioned album with a seemingly infinite replayability.

Sports

Sports Editor

Rebecca Medel

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Volley Bears look to extend six-game win streak

VOLLEYBALL PREVIEW
Bears @ Bobcats

Friday and Saturday, Feb. 10-11
Brandon University

Jonathan Faerber

SPORTS WRITER

The Volleyball Bears won themselves a home playoff spot against the University of Regina Cougars this weekend, with a pair of 3-0 victories at the Saville Centre guaranteeing them at least a third-place finish in the Canada West standings.

The Bears, who were missing team leader Mitch Irvine, began the tilt by outplaying the Cougars 25-23, 25-18 and 25-16 on Friday night. Despite rallying for a 30-28 finish in the final third set on Saturday, the Cougars rarely threatened the Bears, who won four out of the combined six sets against them by at least six points. The wins extend the Bears' winning streak to six, while the Cougars have now lost nine in a row and are eliminated from playoff contention.

Head coach Terry Danyluk admitted that some of the sets were closer than he would have liked, said he was generally pleased with his team's consistency over the two nights. Libero Erik Mattson was likewise satisfied with the Bears' defensive display, despite the temporary difficulties his team had in keeping the Cougars at bay towards the end.

"I thought we did a pretty good job during the first two sets when we showed a lot of hustle — but then the third when they were pushing us offensively we seemed a little hesitant," Mattson said. "At the end it came down to us putting up some



ISIS MELESHKO

key blocks to bail us out."

With the game tied at 28, it was middle Tristan Aubry and setter Jarron Mueller who stepped up for the crucial defensive moment of the night, when they stopped Regina's Nathan Cherwaty from scoring his team's fourth set point and brought the total to 29-28 in the Bears' favour. Mueller then set up Aubry with his 73rd assist of the weekend for the winning kill.

On the offensive front, left sides

Taylor Hunt and Jay Olmstead led the team in points over the weekend for an impressive total of 27 and 24 kills, respectively, while rookie Ryley Barnes, standing in for the injured Irvine, had 16 altogether.

Mattson, who had nine digs and six assists in the games, realizes the Bears have to be on their guard against complacency when they travel to Manitoba this weekend — their first away weekend in two weeks —

to play the Brandon Bobcats.

"Brandon's a team we don't know anything about, but they're in this league coming up and we're going to have to prepare with the video we get to see and then put together our best game plan to give us a chance of winning.

"I think if we can bring the mentality that we had against Calgary (last week) to games like that we'll be able to consistently play very well," Mattson added.

Danyluk also expects a tricky time this weekend against the 10-8 Bobcats.

"They're good and they're in the playoffs and they're trying to play for a hosting berth too, so it's going to be tough next weekend — we have to be ready to go against Brandon."

Friday and Saturday's games are at 7:45 p.m. CST and can be viewed on canadawest.tv. These are the Bear's last regular season games. Playoffs begin Feb. 17.

Basketball Bears undefeated in home court wins with two to go

BASKETBALL ROUNDUP
Bears vs. Bobcats

Friday and Saturday, Feb. 10-11
SCSC, 8 p.m.

Matt Hirji

SPORTS STAFF • @MATTHIRJI

The Green and Gold are undefeated at home, and they'd like to keep it that way after a two game tip-off against the lowly Brandon Bobcats this weekend in the last regular season games of the year.

The hoop Bears are looking to build momentum for the impending post-season, and winning a pair of games this weekend at home to cap off a perfect home stand may be just the ticket.

"I think they're very focused on that right now," Bears head coach Greg Francis said. "They want to finish out strong and get ready for a championship run. These are special times. For our guys, we need to make sure that they lock in game to game right now. For me, our playoffs started last weekend, and we want to make sure that we are playing our best basketball right now."

And the Golden Bears may just be peaking at the exact right moment. After a pair

of defeats at the hands of their provincial rival Calgary Dinos two weeks ago, the Bears traveled to Regina last weekend and swept their two game series against the always-explosive Cougars. For Francis, the wins gave his team a thrust forward as they set their sights a potential championship trophy in March.

"We were very disappointed after losing to Calgary. But the team reacted really well and our games against Regina were actually the best of the year, not just in terms of getting two wins but also because of the energy we played with ... That's the way it should be," Francis said.

Team co-captain Daniel Ferguson scored a combined 53 points in two games against Regina. But it wasn't just his explosive scoring that helped the Green and Gold.

"I think it's his leadership that's most important," Francis said. "Our guys really lock into that. The way he goes is usually how the rest of the team goes. When he's being a leader, he's playing better as well. I'm not surprised that he scored more this weekend because he was also being more vocal to get guys on the same page."

Emotions will be running high this weekend as the hoop Bears' five graduating seniors will play their last regular season home games while wearing the Green and Gold jersey. While the 7-11 Brandon

Bobcats may not be the highest calibre opponent, Francis doesn't want to leave anything to chance. To calm the squad's nerves, Ferguson, who is amongst this year's graduating class, will be called upon once again to lead his team once again to lead his team to glory.

"The difference between winning and losing is about who's ready to make plays in late game situations, whose going to play as a unit," Francis said. "You need leadership to foster that type of play."

Francis will not only call on his graduating class to win a pair of games this weekend, but also to create lasting memories for themselves in their final games as a Golden Bear.

"We're undefeated right now at home, and we'd love to cap off a perfect home stand in terms of conference play," Francis said. "When you get to come into work and work around (our seniors), it's just a great feeling. I just want them to have a great experience at the U of A and have these experiences propel them onto do great things in the future."

Hoping to cap off a perfect home record in their final games of the regular season, the Golden Bears will do battle with the Brandon University Bobcats this Friday and Saturday. The ball will be tipped off at 8 p.m. both nights at the Saville Community Sports Centre.



FILE PHOTO: MATT HIRJI

Volley Pandas hope to end regular season on streak

VOLLEYBALL PREVIEW

Pandas @ Bobcats

Friday and Saturday, Feb. 10-11
Brandon University

Atta Almassi

SPORTS STAFF

Although the volleyball Pandas came out victorious at home last weekend against the Regina Cougars, it was a bittersweet conclusion to their regular home season schedule.

Five fifth-year players and four fourth-year players were all honoured in a ceremony prior to the game to congratulate them on their successful university volleyball careers. Those Pandas not returning next year include libero Erin Walsh and middle Caity Buckell.

"It was a very emotional night, especially for the players who have been with us for five years and we're sorry that the ones we had for two years couldn't have been here longer," said head coach Laurie Eisler. "It's hard to imagine Pandas volleyball without them. But, still, we'll have to move forward."

On the court, CanWest's number-two Pandas rallied after dropping the first set, 15-25, to take the next three sets and defeat the Cougars, 25-16, 25-16, 25-21 giving the Pandas their 13th victory of the season and all but clinching them a top-four seed and home court advantage in the first round of the playoffs.

"It's huge," Eisler said of the wins. "We want to play here (at Saville)."

Last weekend also saw the return of veteran Pandas left-side, Krista Zubick, who hadn't played in CIS competition since the Pandas hosted

the UBC Thunderbirds on Dec. 3.

"It's great to have (Zubick) back," Eisler said, explaining that her experience, composure and knowledge of the game are a great asset to the Pandas going forward into the post-season. "She's seen it all ... she's been in every type of situation."

The Pandas' final opponent to close out their 2011-12 Canada West regular season schedule will be the 8-10 Brandon Bobcats who, occupying the seventh and final playoff spot with the Thompson Rivers Wolf-Pack, will be fighting for their playoff lives this weekend when they host the red hot Pandas, who have won six of their last eight matches since returning from the winter break. As for Eisler, she couldn't be happier to play a team that is in such a desperate situation.

"It's better for us because that means that the level of competition is more even," Eisler said. She said the intensity levels of Friday's and Saturday's matches will better prepare her team for the playoff-like atmosphere they'll face in a few weeks time.

This game will be even more special given that the Pandas will help the Bobcats close out their home court, the BU Gymnasium. Brandon University athletics is preparing to move to a brand new facility, the Healthy Living Centre, next fall, a process that's more than just vaguely familiar to the Pandas.

"They're probably having mixed feelings about it," Eisler said. "We had the same experience moving from old Main to (the Saville Community Sports Centre) last year."

The Pandas play the Bobcats at 6 p.m.CST on Friday and Saturday in Brandon. Games can be seen on canadawest.tv.



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Hoop Pandas build confidence

BASKETBALL PREVIEW

Pandas vs. Bobcats

Friday and Saturday, Feb. 10-11
SCSC, 6 p.m.

Rebecca Medel

SPORTS EDITOR

Coming off a disappointing weekend, the basketball Pandas are looking to this weekend's home games against the Brandon University Bobcats to boost their confidence heading into the playoffs.

This weekend marks the end of the regular season play, and although the Pandas have already secured the number four spot of the four teams from the Prairie division of Canada West continuing onto playoffs later in February, the 11-7 hoop Pandas host the Bobcats this weekend with the hopes of inching a little higher in the final CanWest standings.

Last weekend, the Pandas battled the University of Regina Cougars in two away matches with an 81-76 loss on Friday and an 84-70 loss on Saturday. The Cougars have been unbeatable this season with 17 wins, but the Pandas put up a fight against them with Andria Carlyon leading Friday's game with 24 points, beating her previous game high of 12 points. Head coach Scott Edwards offered his praise for the third-year forward.

"I was really proud of the way (Carlyon) played this weekend — it was a real eye-opener for her coaches and teammates. She was very aggressive offensively, especially rebounding and was a real presence defensively. It was nice to see her play so well this past weekend. Hopefully she can keep this going as we get closer to playoffs," he said.

Playing against Canada West's powerhouse team last weekend had its challenges, and while Edwards is proud of his team for playing hard, he's aware of where the Pandas slipped a bit.

"We battled hard both nights but had about five minutes in each game that we played poorly in, costing us both games. Regina is just too mentally tough to have those kinds



FILE PHOTO: MATT HIRJI

of lapses against. They have two players with professional experience in their back court that played very mature basketball down the stretch and I think that made a big difference in both games," he said.

"Regina shoots the ball quite well from the three-point line and puts a lot of pressure on teams by offensive rebounding very hard. I think that we did a decent job defending the (three-point line) for most of both games, but ultimately gave up too many offensive rebounds late in both games," he added.

This weekend's games could be mirror opposites, as the Bobcats are in last place in Canada West with an 0-18 record. The 'Cats have strong players like Aimee Johnstone who is regular leads her team in points, is number four in CanWest for rebounding, and achieved a game-high 27 points in a match against Thompson Rivers University in November.

While Alberta is a team that's

number three for defensive rebounds, Brandon is one step behind them at fourth. Brandon is also only a pinch below Alberta in rebounding offence, averaging 37.6 per game to Alberta's 38.6. Edwards said the Pandas will use these games against the Bobcats as an opportunity to work hard on the things that need to be improved before heading into a tough playoff run.

"This coming weekend we play a team that hasn't won a game yet this season in Canada West play, but has started to really show some improvement over the past three weeks or so. I expect the Bobcats to be well prepared and to play with great energy. We'll have to execute well against their zone and play some inspired defence to help get a couple of wins and build some confidence going into playoffs."

Games are Friday and Saturday at 6 p.m. at the Saville Community Sports Centre.

Top CanWest spot in sight for puck Bears

HOCKEY PREVIEW

Bears @ Cougars

Friday and Saturday, Feb. 10-11
University of Regina

Ravanne Lawday

SPORTS STAFF • @RAVIAZHARKO

The Golden Bears hockey strategy during last week's bye was simple; rest and relaxation before hitting the road to play the University of Regina Cougars this weekend.

While the practice schedule is usually rigorous for the Alberta team, head coach Stan Marple said the best way to prepare the team for the upcoming week was to let them have the weekend to themselves.

"We practiced like we normally do all week, so I decided to give the boys a few days off to recharge and focus on the next four games before the playoffs," Marple said.

That isn't to say that the team did nothing. Bears centre Greg Gardner kept his focus on improving his team's chances at success against the last-place team in Canada West.

"I've been keeping my cardio up this weekend," Gardner said.

"We're playing multiple games this weekend, so it's important to stay in shape. It is nice to have a weekend off, so I am relaxing too."

Marple and Gardener believe the team has only one major weakness.

"I'm pretty happy overall with our system of play; defensively, the team is playing very responsibly and doing very well. The only aspect of our playing that I'd really like to improve on is our powerplay, and that's what we focused on this week in our regular practices. We still need to step up our game, play with more urgency, and increase our work ethic for the rest of the season," Marple said.

Gardner agreed with his coach's assessment.

"Powerplay isn't where we want it to be right now and that's usually a factor that wins you a lot of games," he said.

Despite the improvements that can still be made, Marple expressed overall pride in the team's efforts and improvements this season.

"We've gotten better overall in games, and I'm happy with the way the team has progressed. If we win the remaining four games before the playoffs, we'll finish the season with one more win than we did last

year," he said. "We did lose a lot of quality players last year, but with the talent we have on the team, I'm not surprised that we continued to improve."

This pride translates into playoff confidence for both Marple and the players. With their clinched playoff spot, both Marple and Gardener feel that, with a little bit of hard work, they have a good chance at taking first in the regular CanWest standings. The Bears are now sitting in second in CanWest.

"We need some help from the other teams to finish first this year," Marple said. "We want to make sure we win our games, and that whatever happens, we finish first."

The Golden Bears will be heading to Regina to take on the Cougars on Feb. 10 and 11. Regina is currently in seventh place in the CanWest standings at 5-17-2 and will be looking for two wins against the Bears and hoping for the 7-16-3 Lethbridge Pronghorns to take two losses against Alberta the following weekend to advance the Cougars into the playoffs. The Bears will need to triumph against both teams to overtake the University of Manitoba Bisons and finish first at the end of the regular season.

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FILE PHOTO: JUSTIN BELL

Puck Pandas hoping to end regular season on a roll

HOCKEY ROUNDUP

Pandas @ Cougars

Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 11-12
University of Regina

Rebecca Medel
SPORTS EDITOR

How does a hockey team that's had 12 wins this season and every one of its 10 losses decided by one point — most in overtime — end the regular season? "With a bang," according to Pandas defenceman Andrea Boras.

This weekend the 12-3-7 Pandas are headed to the University of Regina to take on the 7-13-2 Cougars. As the second-place team in Canada West, the Pandas have already clinched their spot in playoffs along with the Calgary Dinos. The other teams that will be contending for the final two spots are Lethbridge, Manitoba and Saskatchewan. But that doesn't mean this weekend's games against Regina are freebies.

As team captain Sarah Hilworth explained, "If we sweep (this) weekend and Saskatchewan gets swept by Calgary (this) weekend, we have a chance of hosting at home. So

those games do have a little bit of importance to them."

The advantages of hosting playoffs means a lot to a team that is tired after a heavy road schedule since October.

"(Hosting playoffs would be) super important for us because travelling sucks and if we go to Saskatchewan then we'd have to go to Calgary the next week or Lethbridge or wherever we end up and it's just really hard on the body. I think that the more we play at home and the more we get used to playoff hockey in our own barn, the better off we'll be come nationals," Hilworth said.

Since the Pandas are hosting nationals they have played each game this year with a slightly different focus than if they were solely trying to earn a spot in a medal-winning game. But the plan against Regina this weekend is the same system they've been working all year and has made them one of the teams to beat.

"With one-goal games you can always get better from that and we're not too far off. We can compete with every single team in Canada and probably our goal for this year was in every game to come out on top. I think the development that we've

done this year — because we had to change our focus coming into the year because we're already in nationals — so I think that we've developed players more than in other years and compared to every other team I think that we've taken the biggest strides forward," Hilworth said.

Hilworth and Boras are no strangers to gold medal games having both played for the Pandas when the team won nationals in 2010. Boras has also played for Canada at the Winter Universiade games in China in 2009 and Turkey in 2011. As this is her final year in CIS hockey, she has been thinking nationals all year.

"Nationals is always in the back of our heads. We've known all year that we're going to be playing nationals, so it's really exciting. But I mean, we take every weekend game by game and that's how you get better. You can't look too far in advance but it's definitely in the back of your head," Boras said.

"We're super excited to have the opportunity to host it. We've been in the program for so many years and this is the first time that our program has been so successful that we get to actually host the national championships," Hilworth added.

MEN'S AND WOMEN'S HOCKEY TOP THREE

MEN



17-5-2



16-6-2



15-6-3

WOMEN



18-4-0



12-3-7



14-6-2

Ringrose on right path for international hockey career

Andrew Jeffrey

SPORTS STAFF • @ANDREW_JEFFREY

The third year in university sports is often a year of transition for players — it's the first year where an athlete who was once a young newcomer is now suddenly looked up to for guidance by a new crop of freshmen. This is especially true on a team as young as the University of Alberta's hockey Golden Bears.

With few third and fourth years and almost 15 rookies, third-year player Sean Ringrose is experiencing that transition this season. Just two years ago he was learning the ropes of university hockey from his linemates Eric Hunter and Jesse Gimblett who both have moved on to spend time in the American Hockey League. That year Ringrose was also part of a Golden Bears team that was runner-up at CIS nationals. The lessons he's learned from that time on about how to be a student athlete are things he's now passing to the new Golden Bear players.

"What I try to pass on to people is how to balance school and hockey at the same time," Ringrose explained. "We definitely had a really good team that year (2009-10), and we ended up losing in overtime in the finals of nationals. That was a pretty tough pill to swallow for us, but it gave me a little bit of insight into how tough it is to win in nationals and how tough it is to get there. Our team battled through a lot that year and unfortunately just ended up coming up a little bit short."

This leadership role is often expected of a player of Ringrose's calibre. He's currently seventh place in Canada West scoring with 25 points, a total that leads his team.

This is already just two points shy of his total last year of 27, which put him at fifth in CanWest scoring.

But taking on this role is nothing new for Ringrose. Coming from a family already immersed in hockey, Ringrose grew up with the game and is no stranger to the natural pressures of hockey. His father and two older brothers all played, and his grandfather played for the Golden Bears in the mid-1950s. That family history made it easy for him to get his start.

"What drew me to the U of A was their history and their track record of success. I mean being from here, it was pretty much a no-brainer for me to come here, be a part of this program and try and keep on the winning path they've set for us."

SEAN RINGROSE
BEARS HOCKEY FORWARD

"All the mini-sticks games that we played, or my Dad taking us to the outdoor rinks, or out to watch hockey games probably contributed a lot to my continuing to play hockey for a long time," Ringrose said.

It's no coincidence he now plays on the same team that his grandfather once played for, as the example the Golden Bears have set going as far back as his grandfather's days at the U of A is what drew him to choose this school over offers from American universities like Yale or Dartmouth.

"To be perfectly honest, I didn't even know (my grandfather) played here until after I got here," Ringrose said. "What drew me to the U of A was their history and their track record of success. I mean being from here, it was pretty much a no-brainer for me to come here, be a part of this program and try and keep on the winning path they've set for us."

But with the end of his Bachelor of Physical Education degree in sight, Ringrose has had to begin thinking about where he goes next in hockey. He knows he'll continue playing for the Bears as long as he attends the U of A, but he has yet to decide whether he'll stay on for four or five years. Ringrose has already begun thinking about heading across the pond to continue his career internationally.

"I don't know a whole lot about the leagues in Europe but I've definitely been talking to some guys who have been there. I know the league in Hungary that we've sent a couple guys to the last few years, where Derek Ryan and Chad Klassen are both playing right now, is a good league. I'd be happy to play there if I could, but it just depends on where the opportunity falls," Ringrose explained.

For now Ringrose has to stay focused on his second-place Golden Bears team, with CanWest playoffs starting on Feb. 24. The U of A's main competitors, Saskatchewan and Manitoba, are right behind them in the standings, and it'll all come down to the final four games of the weekend to see where these teams fall in the rankings.

This weekend, the Golden Bears will head to Regina for two games against the last-place Cougars.



FILE PHOTO: DAN MCKECHNIE

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A Record in Pictures by Matt Hirji and Yifeng Liu





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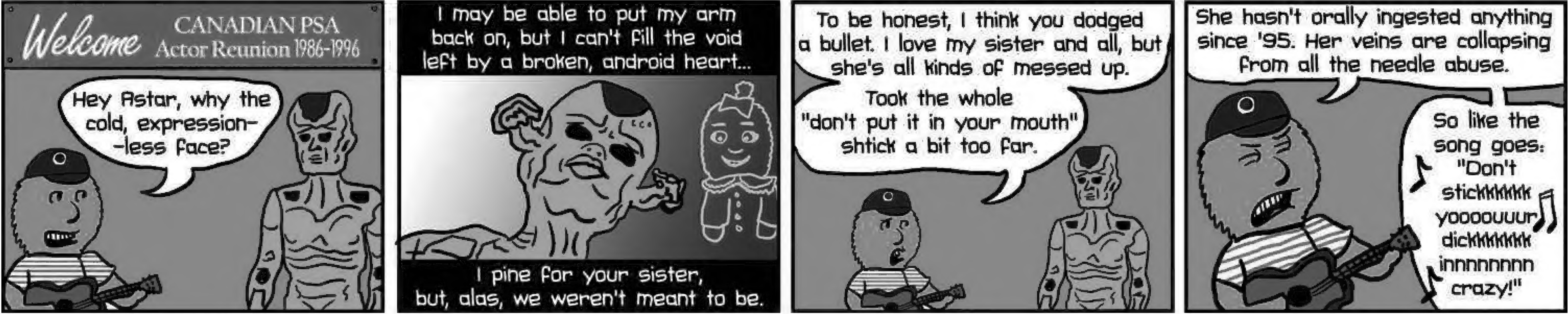
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Diversions

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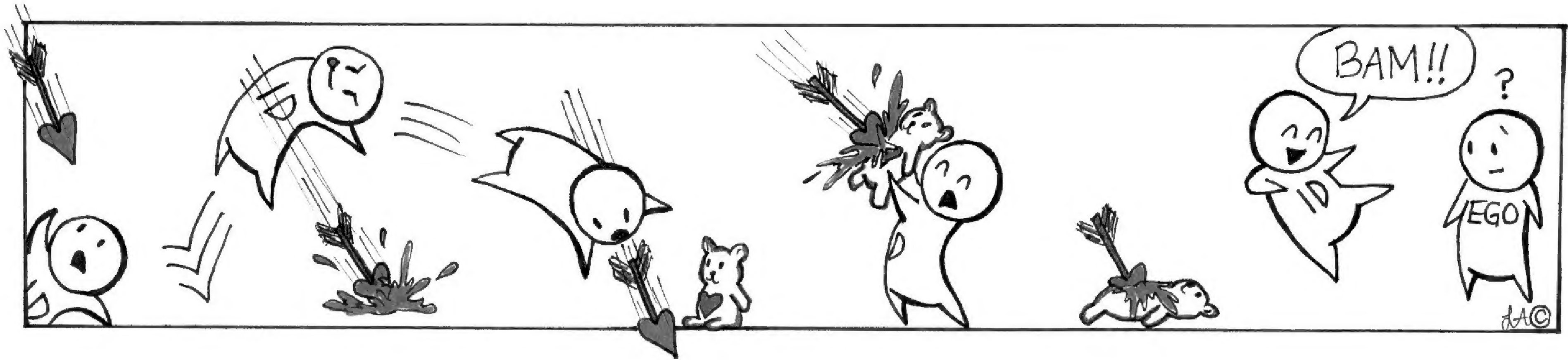
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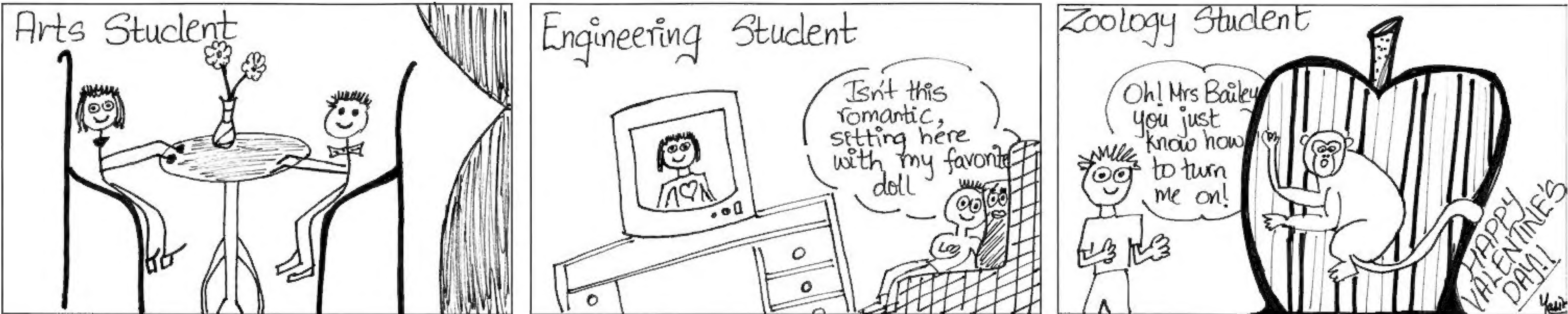
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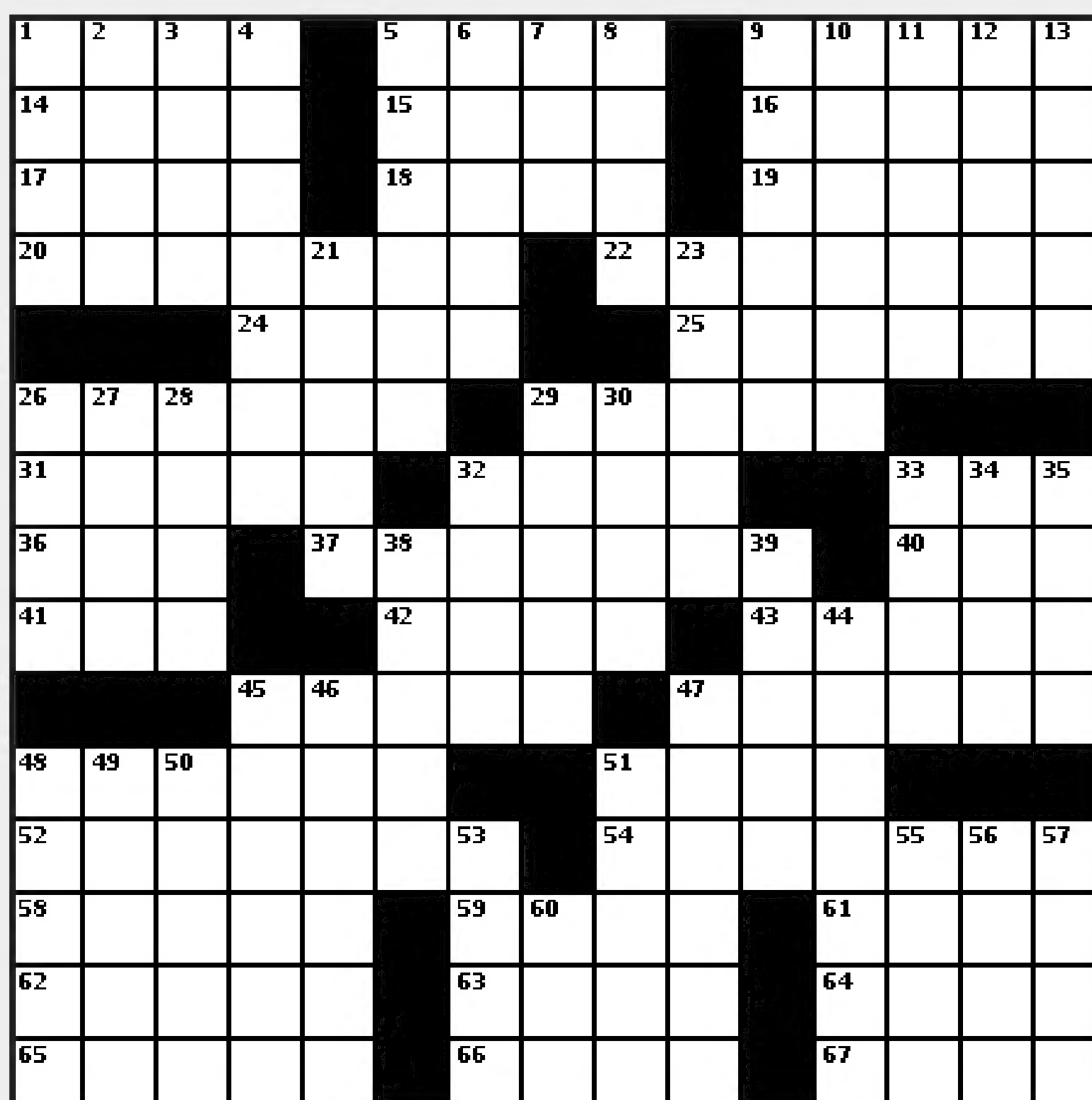
Across

1. Fissure
5. Reveal indiscreetly
9. Pursue
14. Hebrew month
15. Receiver Jerry
16. ____ la vista
17. Richard of "Chicago"
18. Draft classification
19. Mary of "The Maltese Falcon"
20. Small bud-like unit; grows apart from parent plant
22. Act of anointing
24. OPEC units
25. Recompense
26. Hire
29. Kyoto's country
31. Chick of jazz
32. Whimper
33. RR stop
36. Spy org.
37. Hawaii's largest industry
40. Baseball stat
41. "Slippery" tree
42. Dies ____
43. Freeze over
45. Meat option
47. Slithery beasts
48. Salty
51. Collar fastener

52. Calamity
54. Collection of weaponry
58. Picture puzzle
59. Author Seton
61. Pith helmet
62. Pitchers
63. Resembling a red, say
64. Not kosher
65. Martinique volcano
66. Neighbor of Cambodia
67. 3:00

Down

1. Sturdy wool fiber
2. Nice notion
3. Grange
4. Quiver
5. Umbrella
6. Queues
7. "____ Ventura" was played by Jim Carrey
8. Boyfriend
9. Brownish gray baboon
10. Hurry
11. John of "The Addams Family"
12. Got up
13. Makes
21. "Das Boot" setting
23. Scruffs
26. Behold, to Brutus
27. Drudge
28. Baby carriage
29. Magistrate



30. That's _____!
32. Free from contamination
33. Go after
34. Authentic
35. Sleeps briefly
38. Greased
39. Less

44. Member of the Girl Scouts
45. Numerical symbol
46. Actually existing
47. Wanders away
48. Throat problem
49. ____ having fun yet?
50. Trademark

51. Decline
53. Ship's small boat
55. "A Doll's House" heroine
56. Galoots
57. Hoist
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TEMPORARY**

Are you a student in the agricultural field but don't have a field to apply what you are learning? e-mail for information about what we are offering on our farm. saturnaherbs@breezybay.ca.

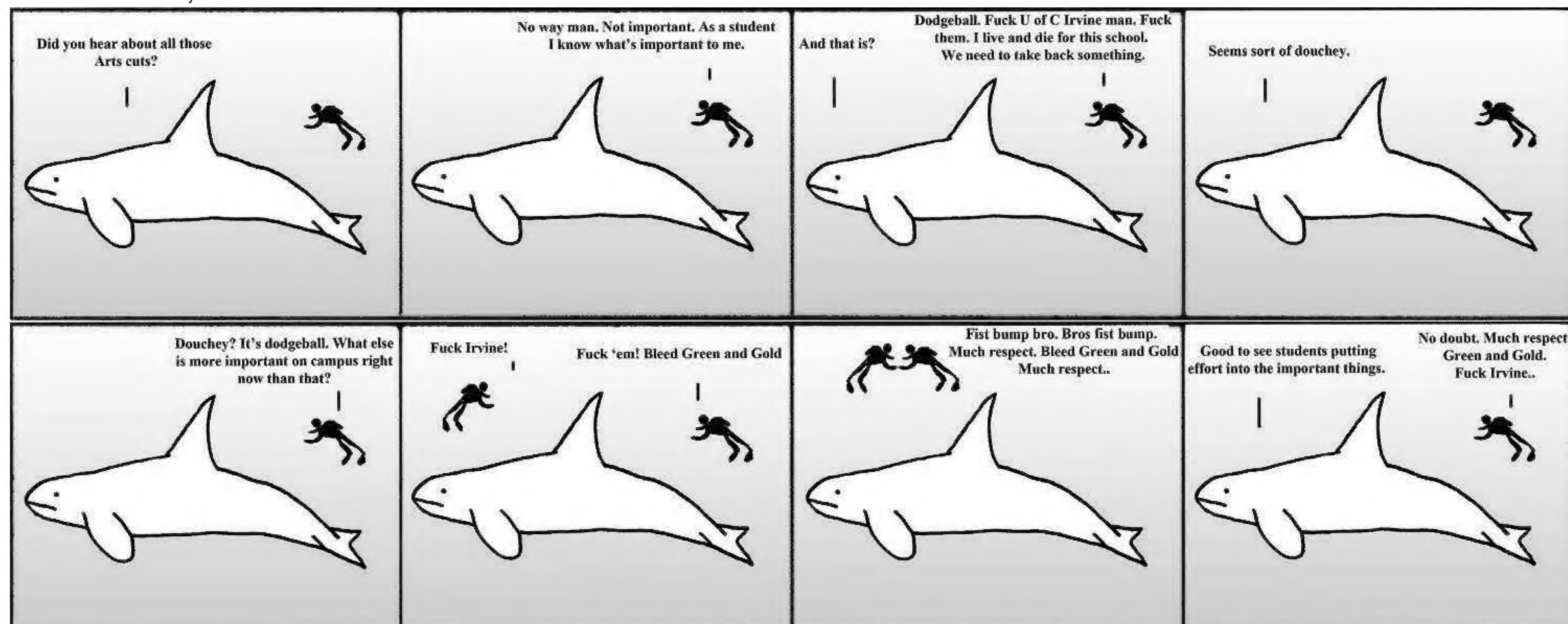
Math Tutor needed. We are looking for a tutor to help with grade 7, 8 & 10 math. A few hours a week in the U of A area. Must be able to work with age appropriate children. email k2willes@telus.net

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

Volunteer to teach ESL to adult newcomers at CCI-LEX, downtown. Classroom teaching, 2-3h/wk. Teaching materials provided. Gain teaching experience and meet people from around the world. Contact Diana at lexprogram@cci-lex.ca.

THIS DREAM I HAD

I was the patriarch of a family of vampires and some of my idiot relatives were killing too blatantly and the police were getting close to finding us out. I had to use my psychic powers to induce forgetfulness in the female police detective heading the investigation.

WHALE AND DIVER by Andrew Cowie

BECAUSE IT'S TOO MUCH FUN FOR ONE DAY...

MONDAY FUNDAY

\$3 DRINKS

- AND -

\$4 SHOTS ALL DAY LONG!

FT. DJ J-ROC



WHYTE AVE'S
NEWEST
INDUSTRY NIGHT
LAUNCHES
FEB 27



THEPINT.CA // 780.758.7400 // WHYTE AVE 8032 - 104 STREET

YOUR FRIENDS AT THE PINT REMIND YOU TO DRINK RESPONSIBLY. PLEASE DON'T DRINK AND DRIVE!